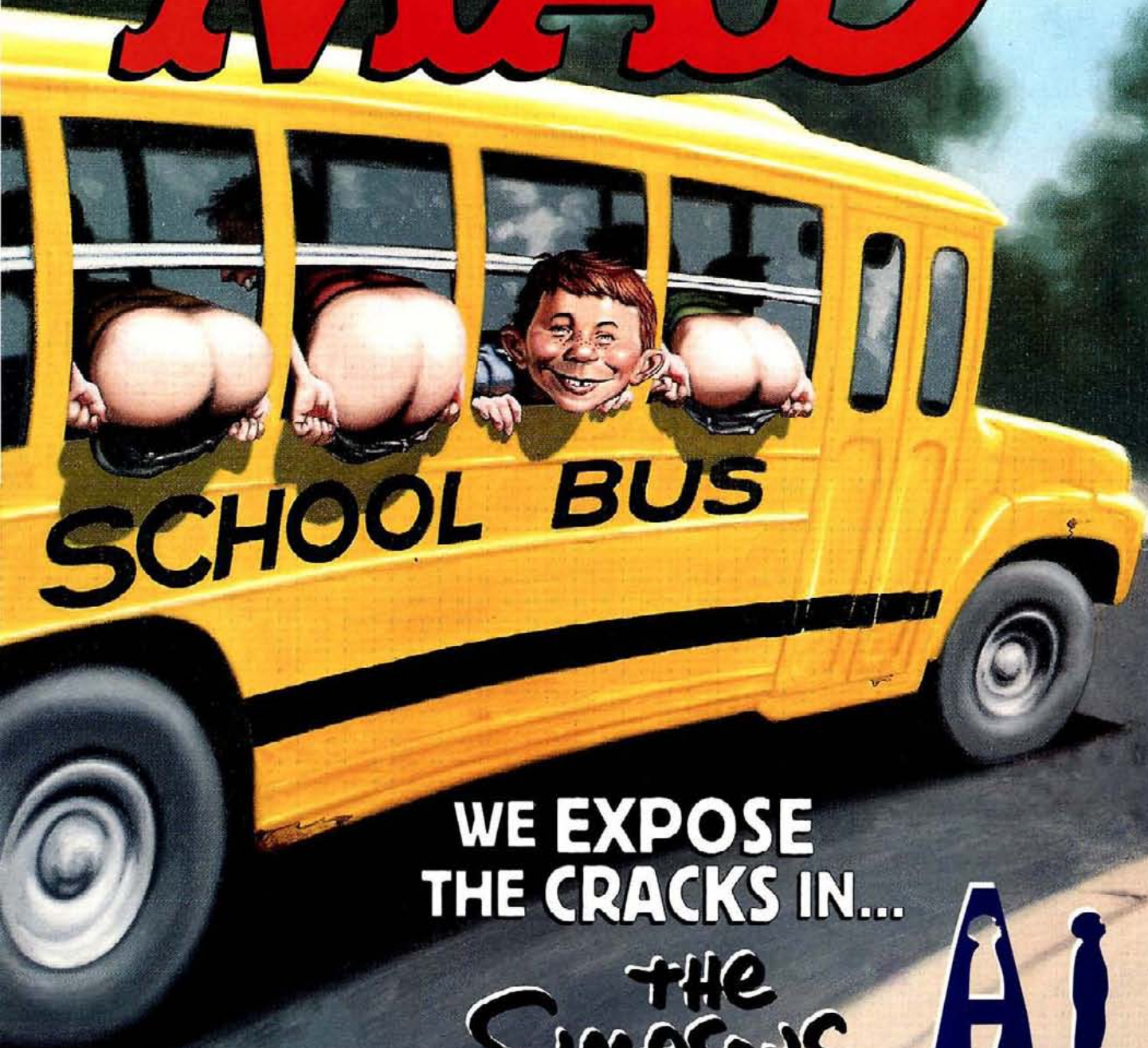


BACKS TO SCHOOL ISSUE!

MAD



WE EXPOSE
THE CRACKS IN...

THE
SIMPSONS

A.I.

TOMB
RAIDER

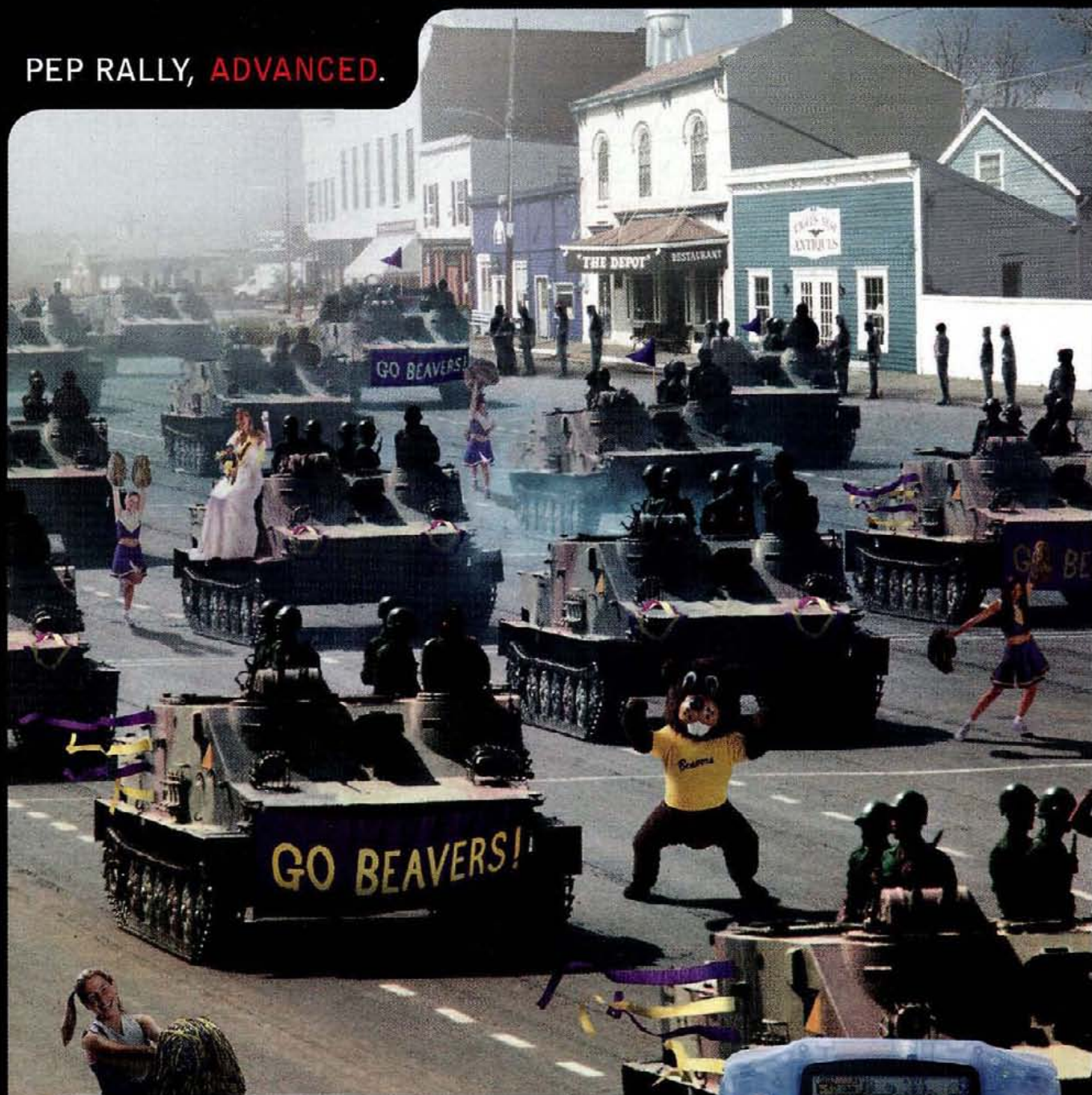
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MAD

NUMBER 410

October 2001

PULL MY CHENEY
BY TOM CHENEY



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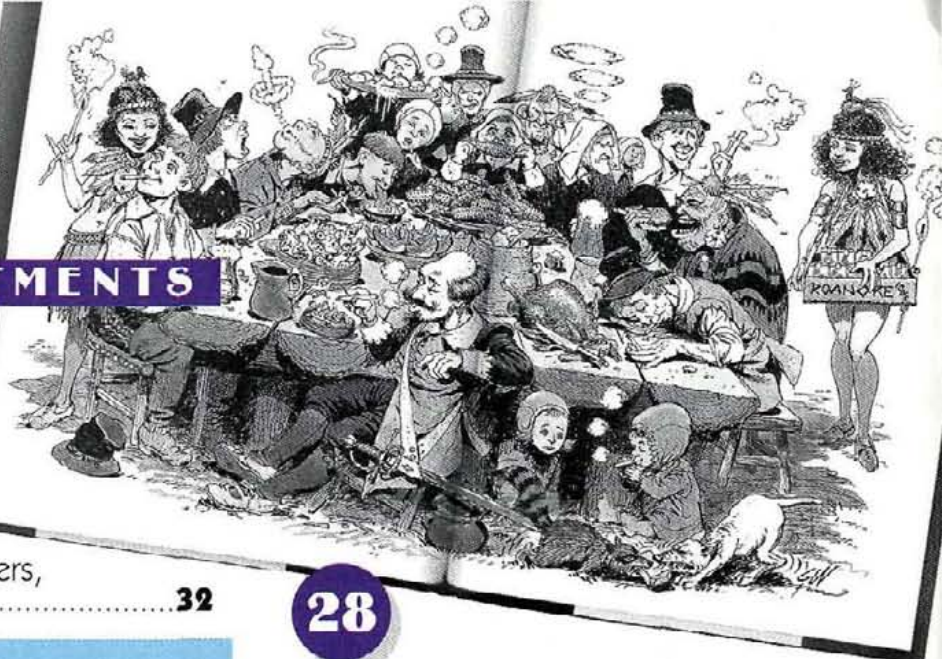
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THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

1978
Satan gives
Kenny G
his first
saxophone

1491
Poets pressure
Columbus not to
sail the ocean blue
until next year

1973
Study shows
eyes not
really windows
to anything

1984
Donny and
Marie Osmond
divorce

1938
Popularity of bowling
soars when bow and arrow
is replaced by ball



48

"Every dog has its day—
but that day still consists largely
of sniffing butts!"

FRONT COVER ARTIST:
JAMES BENNETT



Fortress

The
twerps
Have Landed !!!



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ALFRED E. NEUMAN LOOK-ALIKE CONTEST

Back in MAD #338 we ran an article entitled "You're a Winner and a Loser," and there is no better example of being a winner and a loser than when you claim first and second prizes in the Toyota Comedy Festival's Alfred E. Neuman look-a-like contest, held at the World Trade Center in New York City this past June! The contest attracted an eclectic grouping from all humanity. The "lucky" first place winner was Mike McKenney of Palermo, ME and the runner-up was Mary Senzamic of the Bronx, NY. Congrats to all who participated in the contest and didn't win!



Winner Mike McKenney and runner-up Mary Senzamic congregate around their lifeguard in their genetic pool



Anxious Alfred E. Neuman contestants strut their stuff for the judges

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be returned or acknowledged,
however, unless they are accom-
panied by a self-addressed,
stamped envelope! MAD doesn't
read faxed submissions!

Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™

As I'm writing to the *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™*, a tear runs down my face because I'm writing from the heart. My dumb wish is that Alfred E. Neuman would come to my house. Every month I see him on the cover of MAD with that same grin on his face. I look up to him, he is my idol, and if I could meet him, it would be the happiest moment of my life.

Mark Colbenson, Boulder, CO

Marky Mark — As you know, it is the sole and supreme mission of the *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™* to bring joy, happiness and fulfillment to a wisher's life. Sadly, after reading your letter, we find that we will not be able to bring joy, happiness and fulfillment to your life until such time that you get one! If it's any consolation to you, after our tireless staff read your letter, tears were running down our faces — from gleeful, mocking laughter! Your interest in the *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™* is greatly appreciated. Thanks for writing! —Ed.

GEEK LITERATURE PART DEUX

Like Dr. Scott Miller, author of a letter in your latest issue ("Geek Literature," MAD #407), I am a fancier of both classical literature and your enlightening publication. With equal delight and enthusiasm, I have read large portions of the *Iliad* in my high school Greek classes and remind Dr. Miller that Hecuba was Hector's mother, not his wife (Andromache). So, to the many MAD readers who recoiled at this published blunder, rest assured that there will always be the vigilant among us ready to assure MAD's commitment to representing the truth!

Mark Meany, M.D., Hagerstown, MD

Dr. Marky Mark — Being a letter fancier, we reviewed yours with much interest and only one question remains: **WHO THE HECTOR CARES??** We thought old Mark Colbenson, who asked the *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™* to send Alfred E. Neuman to his house didn't have a life. Boy, were we wrong! Compared to you, Mark C. is a 24/7 party animal — he would sit at the right hand of Dionysus, famed mythical character who slept with his mother and then flew too close to the sun, only to rise up again from the ashes as a swan. Thanks for writing, Greek boy! —Ed. Son of Agun, the God of the Letters Page.

THE ANSWER MAD

Yes! We're back with the latest installment of our ever-popular feature where we take letters written to other magazines and write our own unique responses! This month features a missive from *New York* magazine's July 9, 2001 issue:

I was expecting an interesting look into other couples' screwed-up lives ("Fights and the City" June 11). The reality of it was that it was a truthful, funny and accurate look into my own life! My boyfriend and I have had almost every single one of those fights at least once, but now I know that we are just the normal Average New York City couple. Thank God!

L.O., New York, NY

L.O.: So you think you are a normal couple? Here are things that *real* New York City couples fight about:

- * Which one of you will get out of bed at 2 am to scream at two drunks hanging outside of your door to shut the #@%\$ up?
- * That thing on your shoe, is it from a dog or a human?
- * Which should we rent, *Shakespeare In Love* or *Coeds Who Want It Bad VI*?
- * In the hamper or on the floor — what's the difference?
- * Gullani — Goon or God?
- * *The Full Monty* — "let's go" or "\$180 to watch a bunch of naked guys dancing on a stage?"

* Guy in the subway car — just sleeping or dead?

* Farting in bed — Nothing freakin' wrong with it or disgusting?



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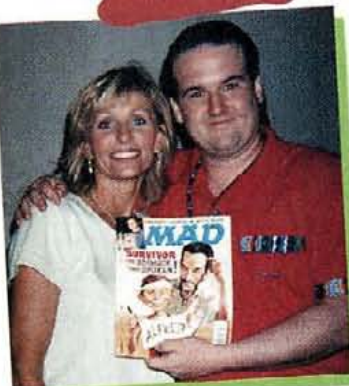
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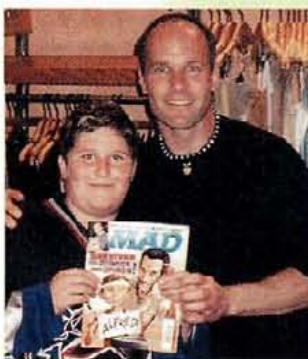
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MAD CELEBRITY SNAPS



Survivor 9 winner Tina Wesson and Thierry



Griffin Littell and Michael Skupin

Well looker here! Two lucky MAD readers have just been voted three-year subscriptions. The Ed. has spoken!

I heard yer whinin' a couple issues back when a reader had their picture taken with Richard Hatch. You guys want female Survivors? Ask and ye shall receive. I got one picture with Tina and one with Kimmi (mmmmmm...) It didn't occur to me until just now to get a shot of both of them together (in which case I would've gotten a lifetime subscription, right?) Tina wanted to know if SHE would get a subscription as well. I gently reminded her that with the million dollars she won, she could buy much softer toilet paper. Which reminds me...I'm on a budget, so whaddaya say you start that subscription pronto?

Thierry Kagan, West Hollywood, CA



I got this picture with Michael Skupin from *Survivor 2* at the Third Street promenade in Santa Monica, CA. He was with his wife who was shopping for a dress for an awards show. He was really nice and I have wanted a subscription to MAD, but never had time to send it!

Griffin Littell, Santa Monica, CA



MAD MUMBLINGS @madmag.com

Mousepads taste like sponge cake, but only when I say! —Goodbick... the secret is in the sauce —Roneldo... What's the proper burial for a Hershey's Bar? —JQ...I got lost between the Lost Pages of MAD once —LiSmurf89...Why does a dog stick its head out of the window in a car, but it hates it when you blow in its face? —Hockeefann...I wish I could live in a fairy tale, but I already do —FREEfall72...You know what feels good? Sitting in a spa while goldfish suck on your toes —NoRules487.

MAD CEMETERY SNAPS

We are proud, but somewhat hesitant, to introduce a new feature to our humble Letters Page. A sister to our hugely popular Celebrity Snaps feature, it's a little something we like to call Cemetery Snaps! Here's how it works: send us a photo of you with a copy of MAD standing next to the tombstone (or plaque if they've been cremated) of a famous person. The name of the person and the date of birth and death must be clearly legible. Tightly cropped shots are preferred. If we run your picture, we'll send you a one-year sub. However, if the person whose grave it is featured in the issue you're holding, we'll cough it up to three years! So all you ghoulish geeks, here's your chance to score big and show disrespect to our dearly departed. Enjoy!



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And Writers

the usual gang of idiots

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The "Tomb Raider" video games were a hit for four reasons: sex, violence, sex and sex! They've been so popular with drooling cyberperverts that it was only a matter of time before tinseltown came a-calling! Lots of actresses were considered for the part of the young female adventurer, but when Angelina Jolie tried on the familiar two-sizes-too-small T-shirt and ultra short shorts worn by the heroine, the producers knew they had found...

LOTTA CROTCH

My idea of fun is suspending myself upside down from an 80-foot rope with knives and weapons strapped to my thighs, waiting to be attacked! I got the idea during my honeymoon with Billy Bob Thornton and his slingblade!

I'm an **Erector set...with attitude!**
Nothing must harm this tomb! I am programmed...to defend the integrity of this tomb within the Lord Crotch Manor... at all costs! Even if it means smashing it...into a million billion pieces!

What was I thinking? My cyber-robot guard almost decapitated my boss! Oh well, I could always land an assistant's job working for David Spade!

Hey, this would make a good middle name!



BAZOOM RAIDER

That robot has Madam in his metallic clutches. I haven't seen Angelina Jolie's limbs so entangled since she took her brother to the Oscars!

This is like a new Indiana Jones movie, only faster-paced and streamlined!

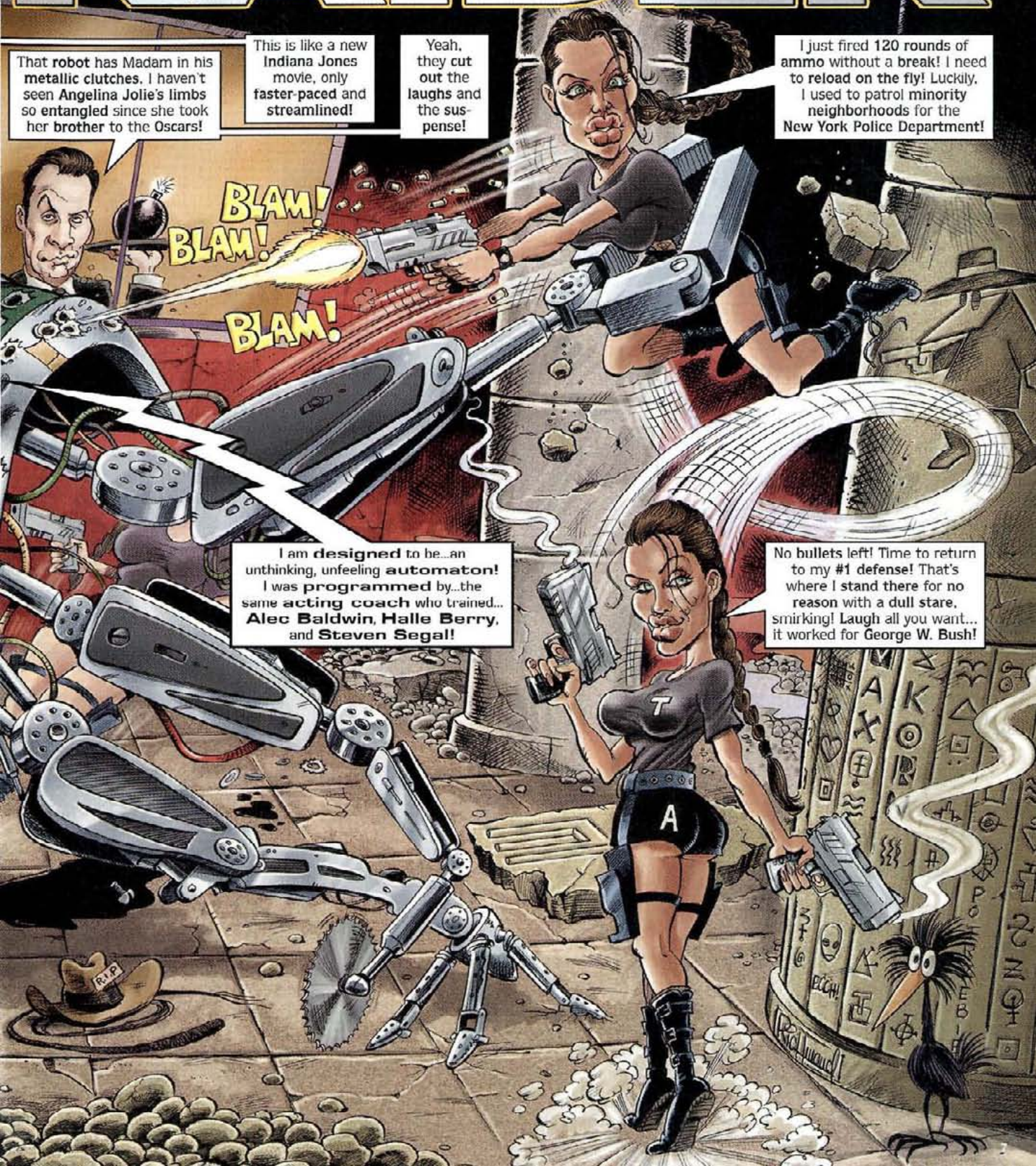
Yeah, they cut out the laughs and the suspense!

I just fired 120 rounds of ammo without a break! I need to reload on the fly! Luckily, I used to patrol minority neighborhoods for the New York Police Department!

BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!

I am designed to be...an unthinking, unfeeling automaton! I was programmed by...the same acting coach who trained... **Alec Baldwin, Halle Berry, and Steven Segal!**

No bullets left! Time to return to my #1 defense! That's where I stand there for no reason with a dull stare, smirking! Laugh all you want... it worked for George W. Bush!



What a dramatic way to begin my adventure! Well, at least it's dramatic for the one moviegoer stupid enough to wonder whether I'd die in the very first scene!

What am I going to do with my robot now? All he was designed to do was mindlessly annihilate and destroy!

I'll give Rupert Murdoch a call! Maybe it can host a show on the Fox News Network!

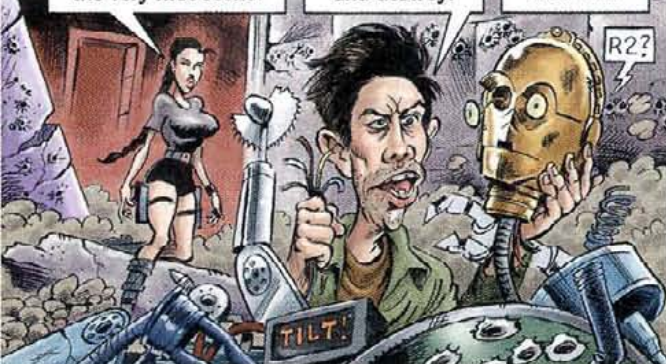
I miss my father!

I love transistors!

Pip pip! Viddy good!

Okay, that's more than enough character development! Let's get on with the rest of the movie!

This isn't steam around me, it's the hot breath of all those Gameboys watching this movie! This is far more dangerous than the fight with the robot! With these prosthetic boobs I could rust!



Ancient Council of Old White Dudes! We have six days to find the missing halves of the Triangle of Fire! The nine planets will not be aligned again for 5,000 years!

If we don't succeed, it will be another 5,000 years till we can try again!

No! We cannot afford to wait 5,000 years!

I get it! Shut up already about the friggin' 5,000 years!

Sorry! We thought there was going to be a Writer's Guild strike, and we needed to fill out the screenplay!



The Triangle of Fire is so powerful we split the object in half and buried the pieces on opposite ends of the Earth! We will pay you to find the missing pieces!

If you hid the pieces yourselves, why wouldn't you already know where they are?

Uh, there is a good reason for that, and it...er... because of ...5,000 years!



Lotta, one day you will be famous for raiding tombs! But for now, keep this gold pocket watch!

Is this so I can always remember my mother?

Your mother? Screw her! The watch is a cheap excuse for you to go back and fight the bad guy at the end! Besides tombs, we also steal from *Pulp Fiction*!

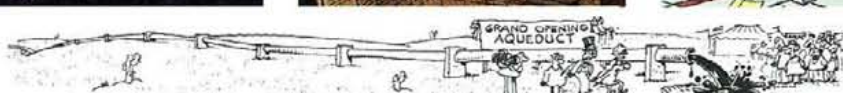


I gotta get my ears checked! In a dead sleep, I can hear a clock ticking downstairs, through an oak door, inside a crate! But in the first scene, I couldn't hear a 25-foot robot behind me until the last second!



This is the Clock of the All-Seeing Eye! It activates the Triangle of Fire, in the Tomb of the Dancing Light! To get there, you need to take the B&O Railroad past the Water Works to Ventnor Avenue!

Sorry! I had your clock sitting on top of my Monopoly game!





Uh oh! My laser-controlled infra-red motion detector grid says we have company! Bugger! If only I had left the magical clock crated up nobody would have known it was there, and the 5,000-year deadline would have passed! Compared with that coincidence, dodging hundreds of bullets is a cinch!

What she doesn't know is we're missing on purpose! Double D breasts + bungee cord = \$200 million at the box office!

This scene reminds me of *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*!

Except this movie should be called "Bouncing Boobles, Rotten Accent"!



The handwriting is from my father, who died in 1986! He must have made arrangements to have this letter delivered today!

Not really! He just licked a stamp and mailed it 15 years ago! After all, we are the Postal Service!



Lotta! I knew you'd solve my dopey mind teaser! Fly to Cambodia and destroy the clock! Why I didn't just destroy it 15 years ago when I had it myself, I can't say! And neither can anyone connected with this movie!



Here it is, just as Father said! The Jasmine flower that marks the tomb's secret entrance! It was easy to find! Flowers always grow where the B.S. is piled the highest!



I've never seen such damage done to our nation's treasures! And that includes being bombed during the Vietnam War!

Well, somebody's got to say it eventually, so I'll just say it! Nice guns!

You can't stop me! I learned how to tomb raid from the very best! Anna Nicole Smith!



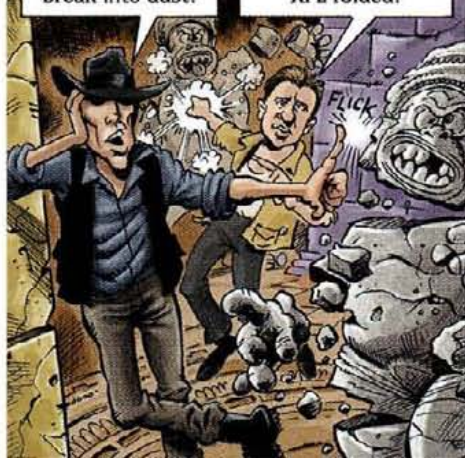
The stone monkey statues are coming to life! Do you think they'll kill us?

Not us! They have a score to settle first, with all those pigeons!



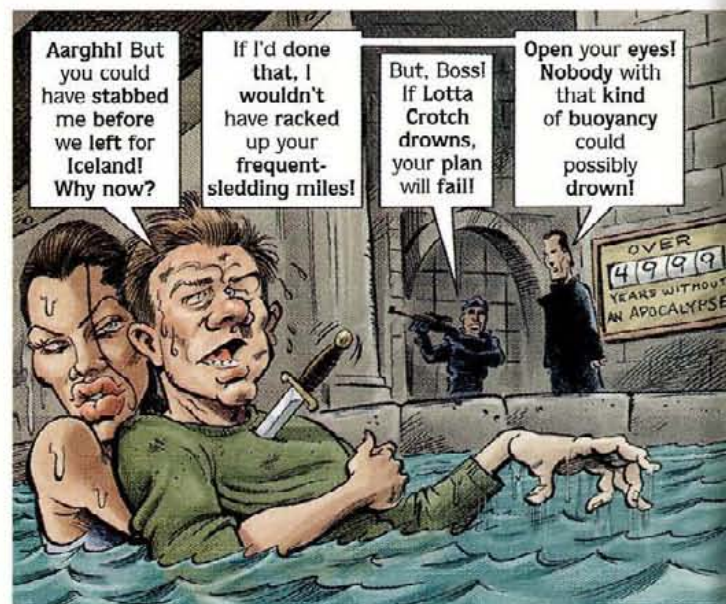
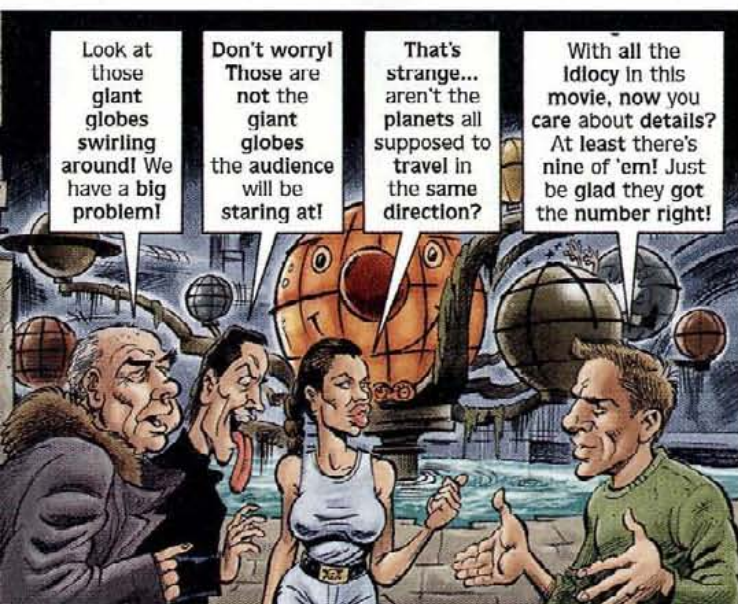
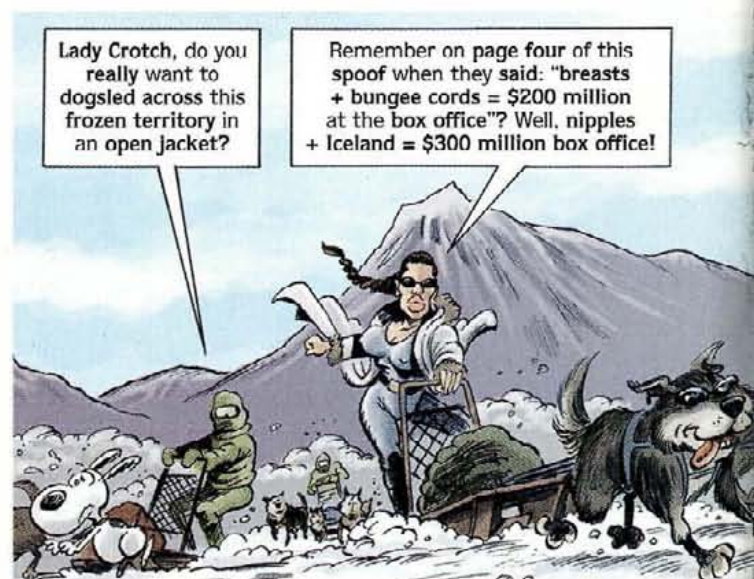
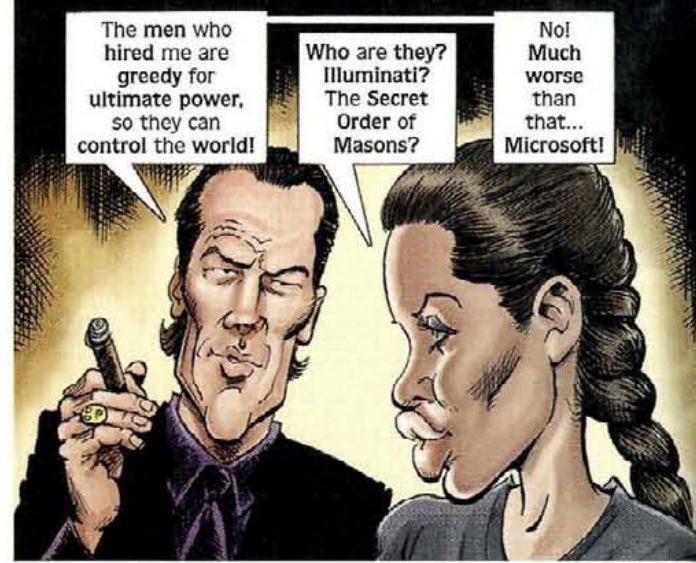
What kind of dumb battle is this? One love tap and they break into dust!

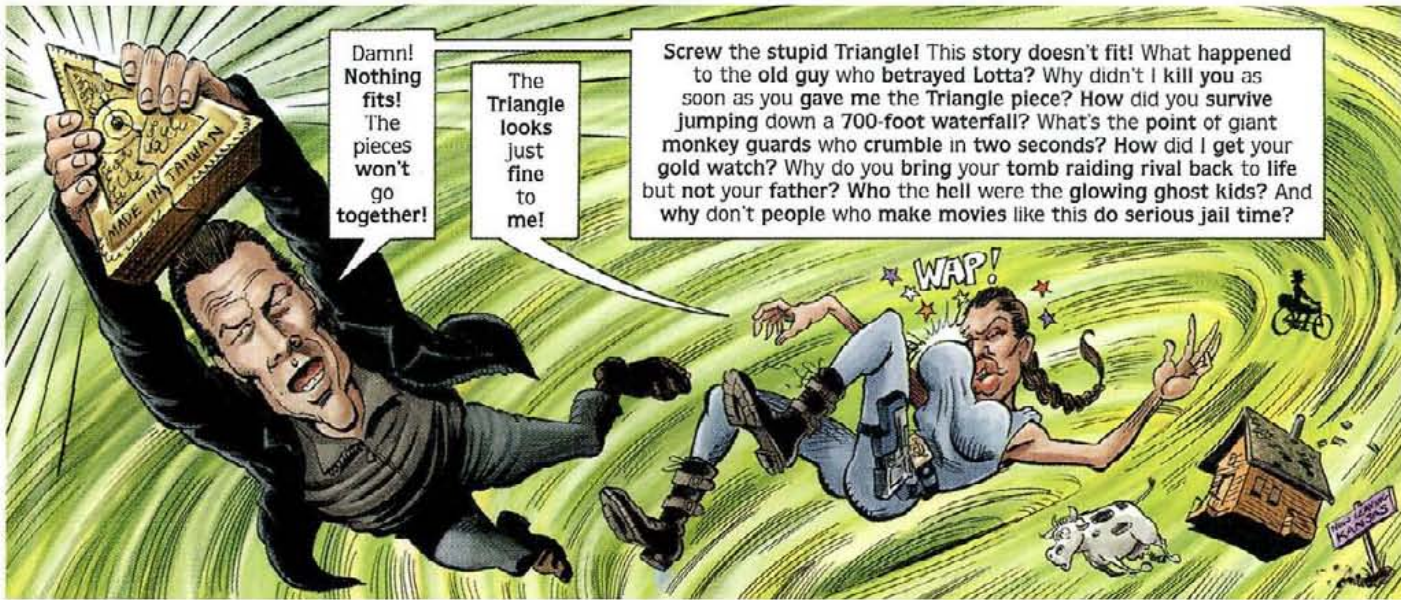
I haven't seen something crumble so fast since the XFL folded!



Bugger! This is the 50th architectural treasure I've helped wreck this year! But that's okay! Instead of crating all this stuff, it's a lot easier to ship priceless relics overseas to museums inside 15,000 little envelopes!







Damn!
Nothing
fits!
The
pieces
won't
go
together!

The
Triangle
looks
just
fine
to
me!

Screw the stupid Triangle! This story doesn't fit! What happened to the old guy who betrayed Lotta? Why didn't I kill you as soon as you gave me the Triangle piece? How did you survive jumping down a 700-foot waterfall? What's the point of giant monkey guards who crumble in two seconds? How did I get your gold watch? Why do you bring your tomb raiding rival back to life but not your father? Who the hell were the glowing ghost kids? And why don't people who make movies like this do serious jail time?



My beloved daughter! If only we could live in the past forever!

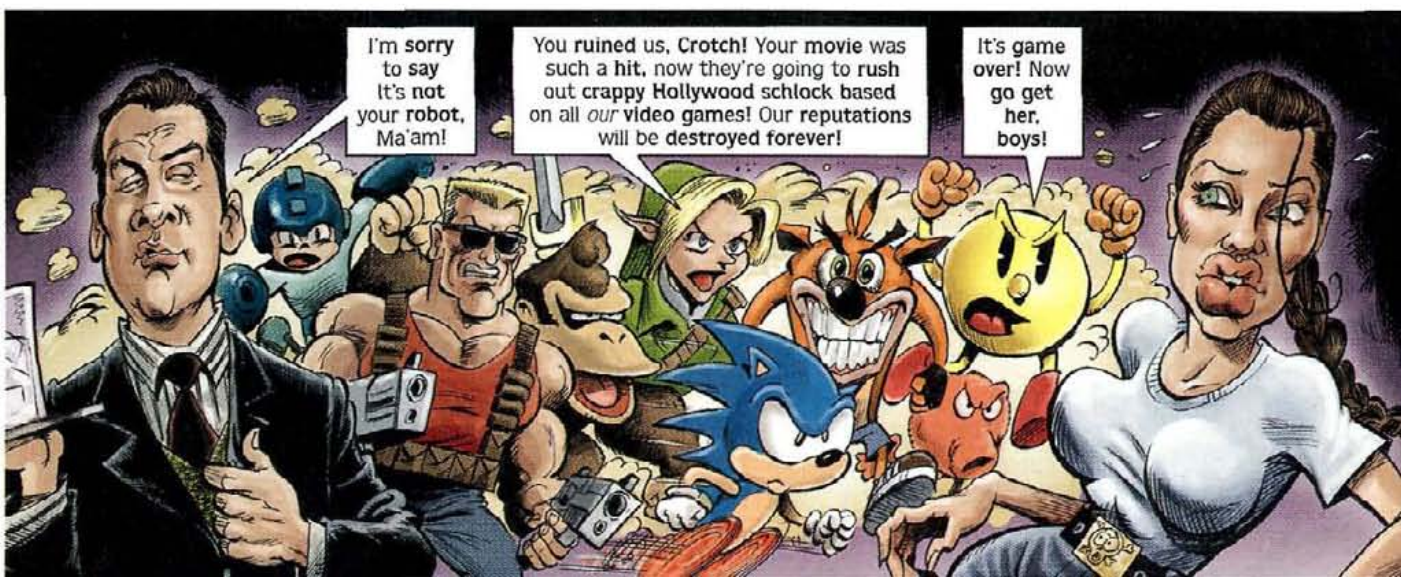
Yeah, back when we were both legitimate Oscar-winning actors, instead of starring in this hokey drivel!



Iceland was fun, but it's nice to visit someplace even bigger...like my home! If anyone needs me, I'll be in front of the mirror practicing my patented wink and my slack-jawed expression of disdain!

Pardon me, m'lady, but there's one last battle for you to fight!

No problem! If that robot wants a rematch, I'm ready!



I'm sorry to say it's not your robot, Ma'am!

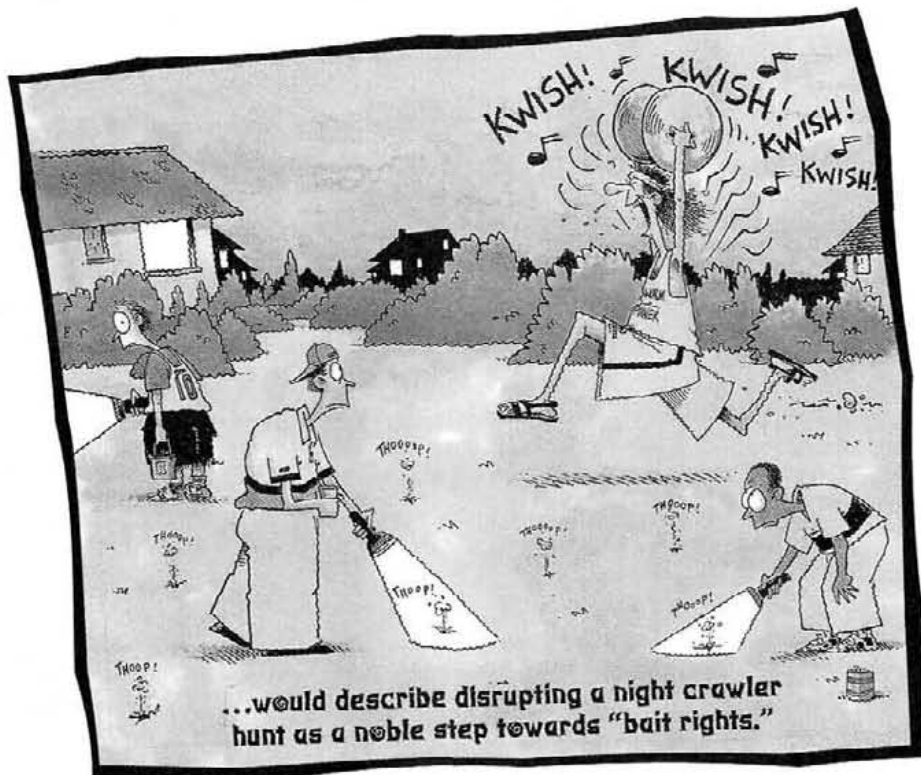
You ruined us, Crotch! Your movie was such a hit, now they're going to rush out crappy Hollywood schlock based on all our video games! Our reputations will be destroyed forever!

It's game over! Now go get her, boys!



Don't get us wrong, we here at MAD love animals. Animal *lovers*, on the other hand, frequently piss us off. Should we really shed a tear for the executed rat on *Survivor*? Must we feel intense guilt at the mere purchase of a ham sandwich? Should we really be concerned about the rights and living conditions of laboratory paramacia? Pardon us, we don't mean to beat a dead horse (so to speak!), but some wildlife fanciers at People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) just take things too far. For example...

ONLY A



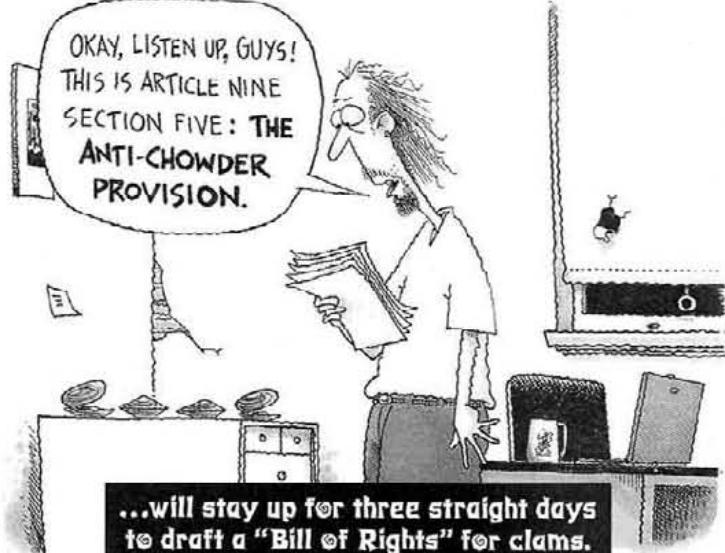
...will fret more about the dairy cow that produced the milk than the missing ten-year-old pictured on the carton.



TRUE PETA NUT...



...pickets the set of the latest *Star Wars* sequel until he's convinced that no computer-generated alien wildlife was harmed during the production.



...will stay up for three straight days to draft a "Bill of Rights" for clams.



...will try to reason with a mosquito.



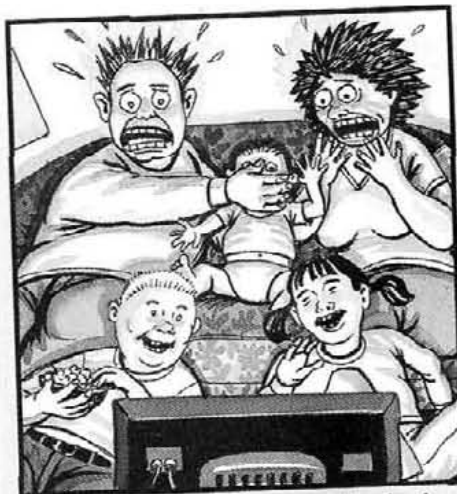
...wills his body to wildlife nutrition.





When a TV show has been on as long as *The Simpsons*, you figure it has achieved certain things. Like *Frasier*, you figure it has a closet full of Emmy awards. But it doesn't. Like *All in the Family*, you figure it has fathered lots of spin-off series featuring characters from the show. But it hasn't. Like *Friends*, you figure the cast regulars must now be making humongous salaries. But they're not! So what can you figure about *The Simpsons*? Only the statistics we've compiled in...

THE



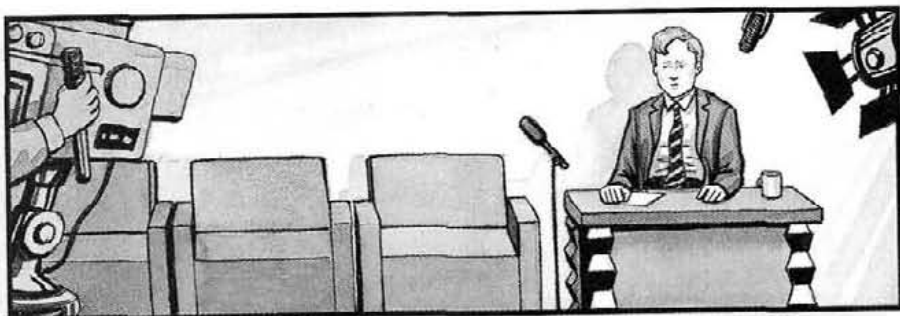
Percentage of parents shocked and outraged by Bart when the show debuted in 1989:

43%



Percentage shocked now, in the era of Tom Green, *South Park* and MTV's *Jackass*:

0.0034%



Number of *Simpsons* writers who went on to bigger and better things (counting Conan O'Brien):

0%



Former *Simpsons* animators rejected by *South Park* for drawing too well:

2,913

Viewers converted to Christianity by Ned Flanders:

2

Viewers converted to alcoholism by Homer, Barney and Moe:

42,739

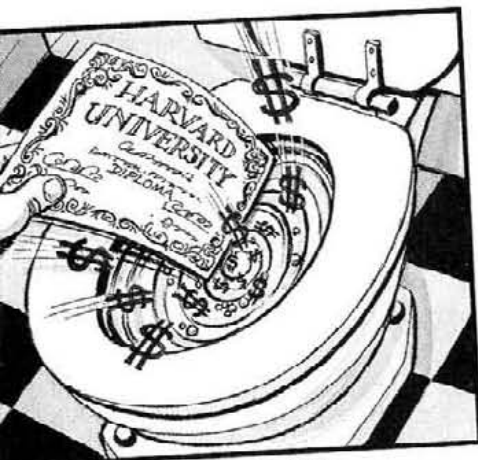


SIMPSONS

BY THE NUMBERS

ARTIST: JAMES WARHOLA

WRITER: MIKE SNIDER



Total value of all the Harvard educations wasted on eventual members of Simpsons writing staff:

\$2.63 billion



Sappy episodes that show Bart's "heart of gold" ordered up by scared network execs with a stack of complaint letters from three Fundamentalists in Iowa:

14



Number of real-life kids imitating Bart's prank phone calls to Moe's Tavern...

...before the advent of CALLER I.D.:

2,430,623

...after the advent of CALLER I.D.:

3



"Bumbling Homer-at-work" episodes that overexaggerate the dangers of nuclear power plants:

0



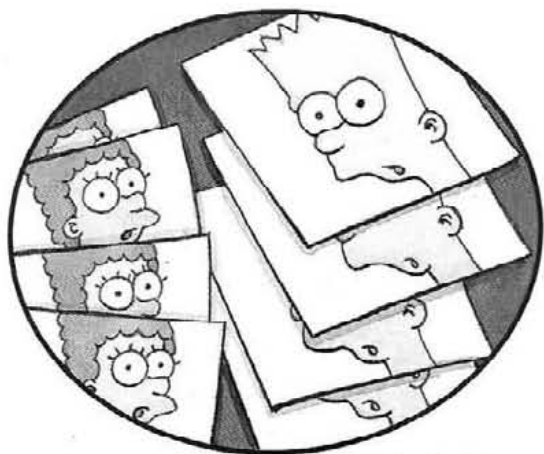
Difference, in level of annoyance, between Simpsons fanatics who've memorized every episode and Trekkies:

0



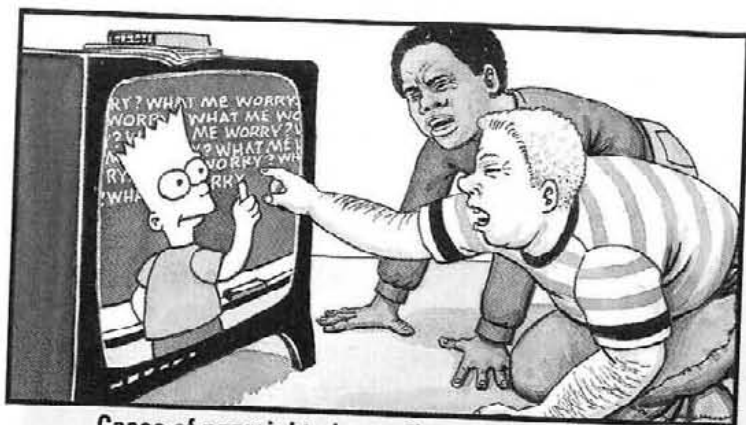
THE SIMPSONS

BY THE NUMBERS



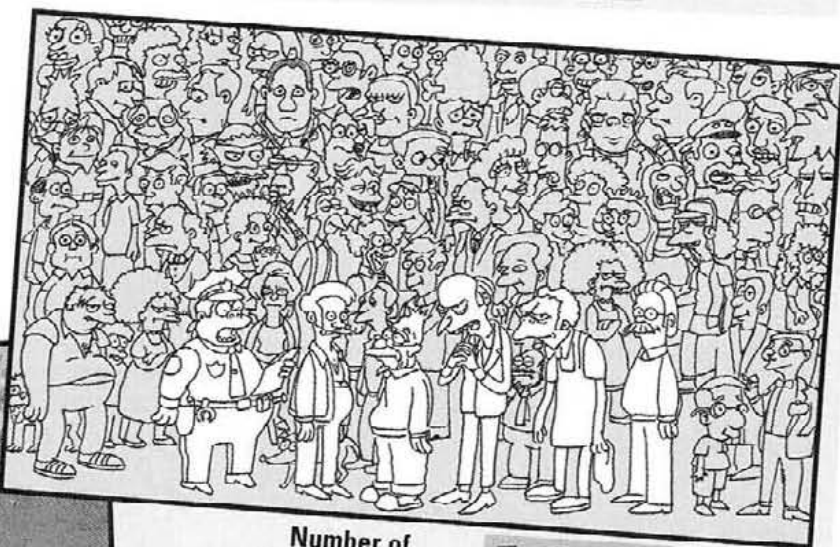
Amount saved by inserting three or four blank stares per episode — just to cut down on the number of different animation cels needed:

\$5.2 million



Cases of nearsightedness diagnosed in the last 12 years directly attributable to squinting at all the tiny background gags in *The Simpsons*:

13,498,280



Number of continuing characters: **1,026**

Number of continuing characters worth remembering: **6**

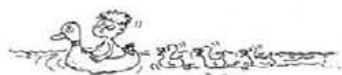
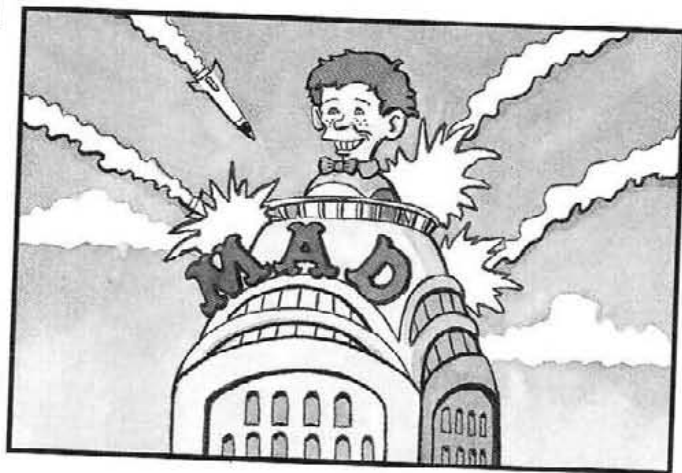


Year that a pudgy, middle-aged Ben Affleck and Kate Hudson will play Homer and Marge in the live-action movie of *The Simpsons*:

2023

Satirical swipes at *MAD*: **42**

Deserved satirical swipes at *MAD*: **42**





CORN GONE WRONG



CORNNUTS.COM



surprisingly hardcore corn snacks
in seven mean flavors™

In the words of some Hollywood executive, "You can never have too many sequels!" So here is another installment of our rip-off game of "6 Degrees of Kevin Bacon." And what's the best thing about our little game? You don't need that annoying Kevin Bacon to play it! Here's...

6 DEGREES OF SEPARATION

Can you link GOLF to SHREK?

Golf



is just an excuse for married guys to get away from their wives, as is...

Business Travel



which is a popular reason to buy a Laptop, as is...

Cybersex



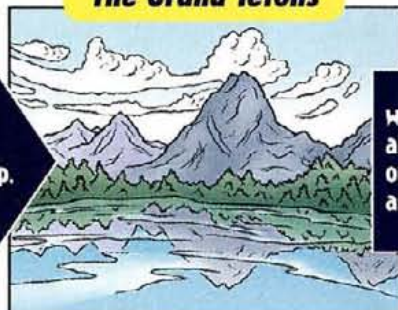
Can you link THE ROLLING STONES to CHARLIE SHEEN?

The Rolling Stones



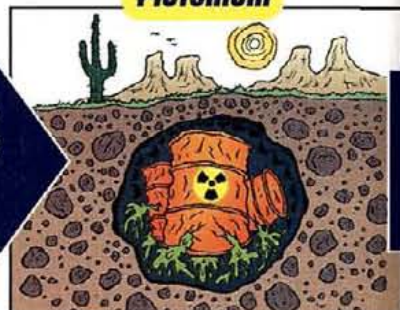
are an ancient rock group, as are...

The Grand Tetons



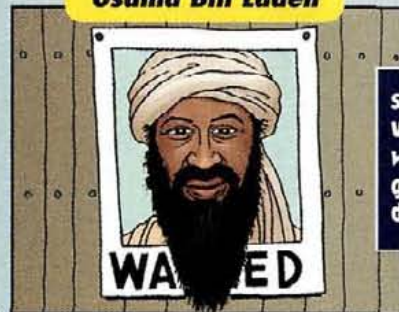
which are abundant out West, as is...

Plutonium



Can you link OSAMA BIN LADEN to CAMRYN MANHEIM'S THIGHS?

Osama Bin Laden



spreads violence wherever he goes, as does...

Soccer



which has only one ball, like...

Tom Green



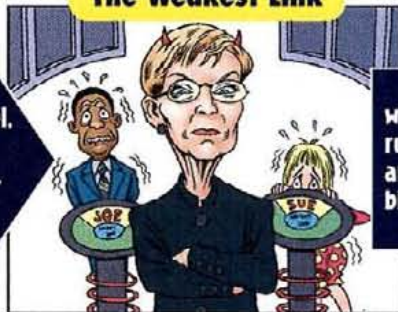
Can you link COCKFIGHTS to AOL?

Cockfights



are a cruel, barbaric spectacle, as is...

The Weakest Link



which is ruled over by an arrogant bitch, as is...

James Brolin



ARTIST: RICK TULKA

BETWEEN ANYONE AND ANYTHING

PART VI

The XFL

which is a poor substitute for the real thing, like...



which was a major embarrassment for NBC, as is...

Conan O'Brien



who's a big headed doofus the kids like, as is...

Shrek



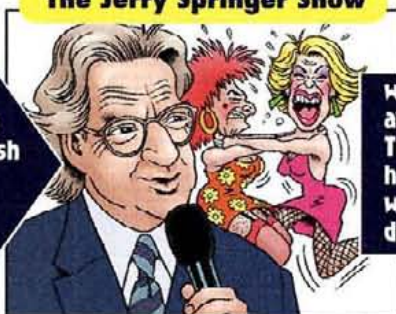
Spam

which has a half-life of 10,000 years, as does...



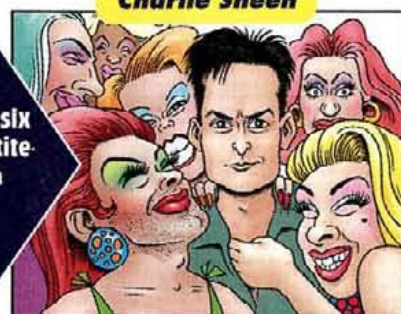
which is a trailer-trash favorite, like...

The Jerry Springer Show



which averages six Transvestite hookers a week, as does...

Charlie Sheen



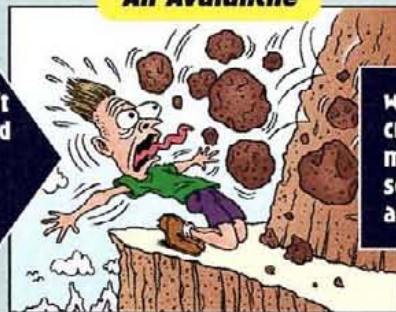
Montezuma's Revenge

who is a big pain in the ass, as is...



which can't be stopped once it's started, like...

An Avalanche



which can crush a man within seconds, as can...

Camryn Manheim's Thighs



Laura Schlessinger

who played a doctor on TV, as did...



who disapproves of everyone and everything, as does...

Organized Religion



which keeps taking more and more of its member's money, as does...

AOL





Like the early pioneers, our hero continues to weave his way ever west. And like them, his butt is starting to get really sore. Saddle up, it's...

Monty and...



THE GREAT AMERICAN ROAD TRIP

PART TWO





HI, WANT SOME DOLLY JERKY?

WHAT'D YOU CALL ME?
OH... HELLO!



HOW ABOUT A FREE SAMPLE? THIS ONE'S CALLED DOLLY'S INFERNO!

MMMM... GOOD GOD THAT'S HOT! WHERE'S A DRINK?



HOW ABOUT A NICE CUP OF DOLLY BUTTERMILK?

I HOPE GRANDPA'S STILL HUNGRY! I THINK I'M GONNA LOSE IT AGAIN!



THERE YOU ARE! COME ON, TIME TO GO!

WAIT! NO! BUT ME AND TERRY JO GOTTA GO TO THE DUMPSTER.



FORGET IT! WE GOTTA HIT THE PARKING LOT BEFORE IT EMPTIES OUT!

YOUR FATHER LIKES TO GET A HEAD START ON THE GAS GIPHONING.

THAT'S RIGHT! NOW GET YOUR NOSE AND COME ON!



I GUESS THIS IS GOODBYE, TERRY JO.

HOW ABOUT A QUICK TONGUE BATH BEFORE YA GO?



WE'RE HEADING TOWARDS THE SETTING SUN, YOU KNOW WHAT THAT REPRESENTS, DON'T YA?

DEATH?



NOT QUITE, BOY. IT MEANS... **California!**



GREAT. RIOTS, SMOG, EARTHQUAKES AND ROLLING BLACKOUTS. I'LL FIT RIGHT IN WITH ALL THAT **MISERY.**

THAT'S THE SPIRIT!



FEEL BETTER?

YEAH, GORRY ABOUT CRYING. I HAVE A VERY SENSITIVE TONGUE!



REALLY? WELL MAYBE I CAN KISS IT FOR YOU.

AWESOME! ARE ALL SOUTHERN GIRLS LIKE YOU?



SOME GOT CLOSER SET EYES. IT'S ALL A MATTER OF HOW MUCH INBREEDING THERE WAS IN OUR TEEN YEARS! LET'S GO OVER BY THE DUMPSTERS.

SWEET!



SLURP!



WOW, YOU GOT OUT THAT LODGED PIECE OF JERKY! THANKS, TERRY JO, I'LL NEVER FORGET YOU!

WHATEVER.



ALL RIGHT PEOPLE, WE GOT A FULL TANK, EMPTY MAYO JARS AND HALF A CASE OF CURRY CORNNUTS! THAT OUGHT TO GET US THERE.

I'M AFRAID TO ASK, BUT... WHERE TO NOW, DAD?

EXIT →



WHEN I GET TO CALIFORNIA, I'M GONNA SQUASH SOME GRAPES ALL OVER MY BODY!

EWWW! HOW COME?



MY FUNGUS IS ACTING UP AGAIN. IT'S AN OLD CHEYENNE REMEDY!

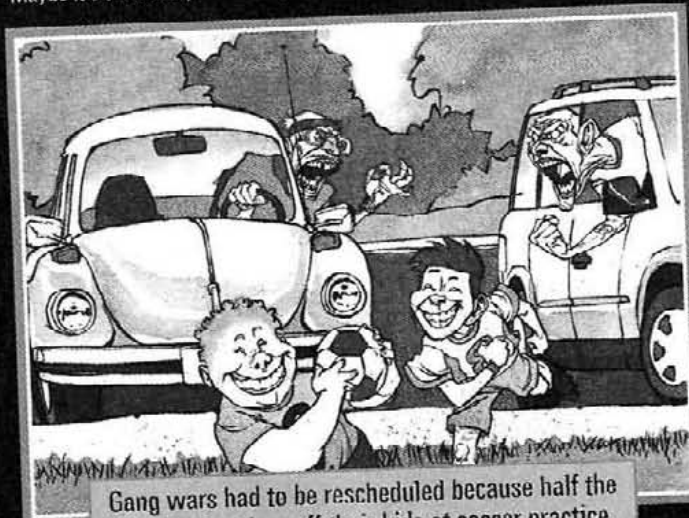
NICE.

IN OUR NEXT SUN-SOAKED EPISODE...

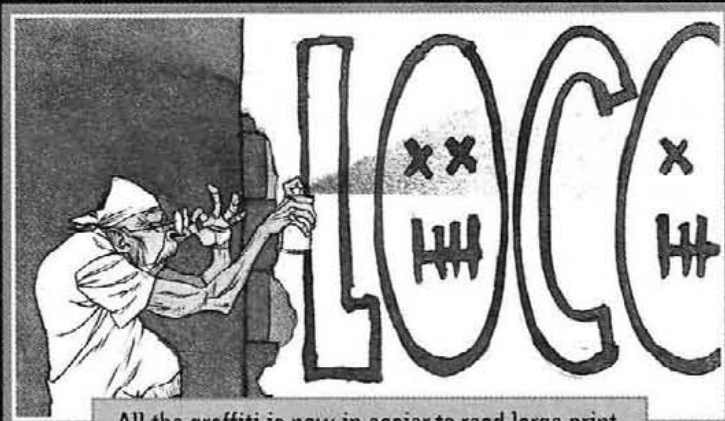


According to FBI statistics, rates of serious crimes have fallen off steeply in the last several years. One reason is the inevitable aging of youths that comprised many violent street gangs. How about *your* gang members? Are they getting a bit long in the tooth? Are the once feared "Loco," "Thug" and "Killa" now referred to as "Gramps," "Pokey" and "Gums"? Have you officially changed your gang colors to "Viagra Blue" and "Pepto Bismol Pink"? Maybe it's time that you woke up and got down with the...

10 SIGNS



Gang wars had to be rescheduled because half the guys had to drop off their kids at soccer practice.



All the graffiti is now in easier-to-read large print.



They've stopped showing off stab wounds and bullet holes and now complain about hip replacements and bypass scars.



Over the years, the gang's robbery targets have "evolved" from banks...to liquor stores...to "that half-blind old man selling oranges at the Harbor Freeway on-ramp!"

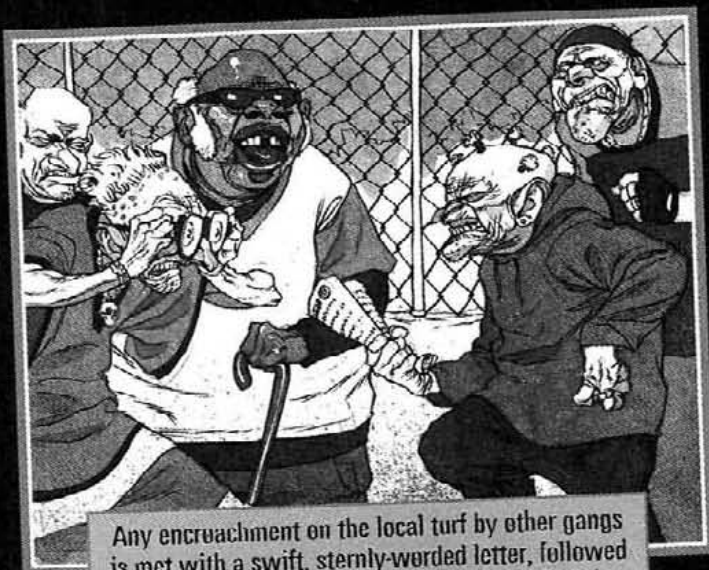


Members spend less time threatening rival gangs for encroaching on their territory...and more time yelling at local kids to "Get the hell off my lawn, punk!"

THAT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD GANG IS GETTING OLD



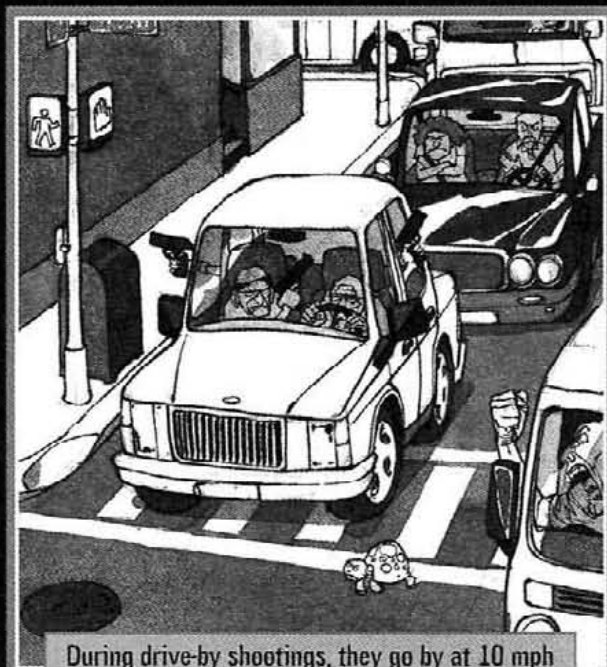
Police now mockingly refer to your gang as "The Iron Poor Bloods."



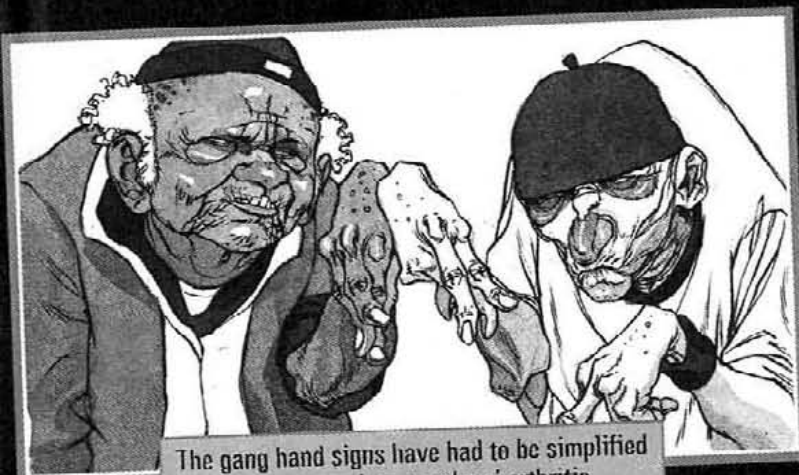
Any encroachment on the local turf by other gangs is met with a swift, sternly-worded letter, followed up immediately by a court Restraining Order!



The hottest new personal fashion accessory in the 'hood is trifocal Ray-Bans.



During drive-by shootings, they go by at 10 mph and leave their left turn signal on the entire time.



The gang hand signs have had to be simplified to accommodate members' arthritis.



Since time immemorial, women have been withholding sex from men, usually in retaliation for one perceived infraction or another that men invariably commit. Men know this, but have never been able to totally avoid committing these offending deeds. Why, you ask? Because women are always changing the rules, or making up new ones in the top-secret meetings they have. Well, we guys at MAD think we have finally broken the code that guides all women in their never-ending effort to torture randy men. Here's...

A MAN'S BEFORE AFTER COMMITTING

THE MAN'S ERROR

**LENGTH
OF TIME**
(Before He Can
Expect to "Get Any")

Giggling at her for getting misty-eyed at the end of a chick-flick **4 days**

Using any expression other than "making love" to refer to sex **4 days**

Tone of voice she doesn't like while talking about her mother **5 days**

Actually saying "No, I don't want to go" when she says "It's okay if you don't want to go" **6 days**

Shushing her during ESPN's *SportsCenter* **8 days**

Not allowing her to watch *Judging Amy* because there's a 3 Stooges marathon on AMC **3 days**

Bringing up the possibility of a "threesome"...

- ...with her friend **2 days**
- ...with her sister **19 days**
- ...with her mom **6 months**

Shrugging your shoulders and grunting when she asks how the makeup she just spent 1 1/2 hours putting on looks **2 days**

Showing up 1 1/2 hours late for a date because there was "this really cool police chase on live TV" **3 days**

Not answering quickly or vehemently enough when she asks if you would ever cheat on her **12 days**

Scratching your privates and asking her "what the hell did you give me?" **3 months**

Accusing her of "having PMS"

- ...when she doesn't **8 days**
- ...when she does **12 days**

Failure to be serious about a relationship quiz in *Cosmopolitan* magazine **4 days**

Casually remarking that if she wanted a boob job you'd be willing to pay for it **3 weeks**

Using logic **6 days**



GUIDE TO HOW LONG YOU'LL "GET ANY"

ONE OF THESE COMMON RELATIONSHIP ERRORS



But hey, let's be honest. Men aren't the only ones who screw up in a relationship. In the interest of fair play, we also present...

A WOMAN'S GUIDE TO HOW LONG BEFORE YOU'LL "GET ANY" AFTER COMMITTING ONE OF THESE COMMON RELATIONSHIP ERRORS

THE WOMAN'S ERROR	LENGTH OF TIME (Before She Can Expect to "Get Any")
Selling off his prized baseball card collection	2 hours
Wrecking his car	2 hours
Running off with the mailman, but coming back after a week or so	2 hours
Accidentally enlisting him in the Marine Corps	2 hours
Running up a \$1,000 phone bill calling psychic hotlines from his place	2 hours
Burning all his clothes	2 hours
Killing his mother	2 hours
Shredding his entire skin magazine collection	2 hours
Selling his dog to a Korean restaurant	2 hours
Slicing off his penis with a kitchen knife, then tossing it into a vacant lot	2 hours

ARTIST: PETER KUPER

WRITER: MIKE SNIDER



Public Schools are facing severe financial crises. Budgets are being cut, leaving students with old textbooks, faulty gym equipment and the like. What is the answer? Hit up big corporations for donations and sponsorship. Now, we can tolerate a new basketball scoreboard with a company's name on it, but a textbook that teaches math by having students count Cheerios is a whole other story. Can you say hidden agenda? Recently, we traveled to Pepsi High School in Long Beach, California to find out what happens...

WHEN CORPO PUBLIC SCH

From the *RJ Reynolds* U. S. History Textbook

THE FIRST THANKSGIVING

In 1620, the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock. They were greeted by Indians who helped them plant corn and wheat and tobacco. Ah, smooth tobacco! Together, the Pilgrims and Indians harvested their tobacco and then processed it into cigarettes and then sold them to others who could prove they were at least 18 years old. It was in this spirit of cooperation and providing the public with a product it wanted that the first Thanksgiving was celebrated.

IMPORTANT TERMS IN THIS CHAPTER:

- ✓ Tobacco
- ✓ Cigarettes
- ✓ Thanksgiving

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

- How do cigarettes help bring people of different races together?
- What can you do to ensure that all Americans always have the right to smoke tobacco, a naturally occurring plant?



RATE SPONSORSHIP OF DOLS GOES TOO FAR!

From Seagram's Chemistry Experiments Workbook

EXPERIMENT No. 6.0

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- One 750 ml bottle C_2H_5OH (Ethyl alcohol) compound — *let's call it "tequila"*
- One 44.5 milliliter measuring beaker — *let's call it a "jigger"*
- One 250 ml bottle triple distilled juice of Citrus limetta Risso — *let's call it "triple sec"*
- One Citrus aurantifolia (Christm.) Swingle — *let's call it a "lime"*
- 4 cubes of H_2O stored below 0 degrees centigrade — *let's call it "ice"*
- 3.7 milliliters NaCl — *let's call it "table salt"*
- One 284 ml conical flask — *let's call it a "highball glass"*

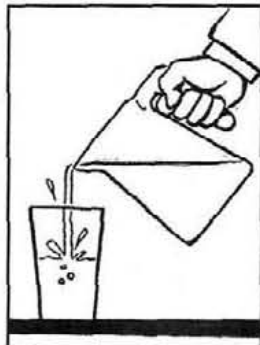
Multiply materials times the number of lab partners (and don't forget the instructor!)



DIRECTIONS FOR EXPERIMENT:



Combine 1 measuring beaker of C_2H_5OH compound, 1/3 measuring beaker of triple distilled juice of Citrus limetta Risso, 2/3 measuring beaker of juice squeezed from Citrus aurantifolia (Christm.) Swingle, and 4 cubes of H_2O stored below 0 degrees centigrade.



Place mixture in conical flask, the rim of which has been rubbed with wedge of Citrus aurantifolia (Christm.) Swingle and sprinkled with NaCl.



Drink mixture.



Repeat experiment as many times as desired and/or physically able to.

Observations:

- Observe how much better you feel after drinking mixture
- Observe how much more fun your lab partners are to be with
- Observe how your head feels in six to eight hours — Let's call it a "hangover"

Remember:

Don't mix acids and bases in an impaired state.

**WHEN CORPORATE
SPONSORSHIP OF
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GOES TOO FAR!**

**From MasterCard's
Elementary Math Flash Cards**

$$2+2=4^*$$



*"4" is the correct answer if reached during the initial grace period. Following the initial grace period, the sum shall be subject to an annual percentage rate of 17.99%, which corresponds to a daily periodic rate of 0.0493%. This rate will begin to accrue from the date the equation is assigned for homework and continue to accrue until the correct answer is credited to your midterms or final exams, whichever occurs first. If 30 days pass and the teacher has not received a minimum required answer, an additional late fee of 29 shall be added to the sum of the equation. So, if Johnny is given this equation in January and does not answer until February, the correct answer to "2+2" shall be calculated as $4 + 4 \times 1.499\%$, or 4.05996, with a minimum required answer of 1. If Johnny does then not make the correct or minimum required answer until March, the correct answer to "2+2" shall be calculated as $4 + 4.05996 \times 1.499\% + 29$, or 33.12082, with a new minimum required answer of 2. (At current percentage rates, if only the minimum required answer is made each month, it will take 39 years to reach the correct answer. If Johnny is left back, he will be subject to a \$25 annual membership fee.)

From THE HOME DEPOT's Life Sciences Book



CHAPTER SIX: EXTINCTION

Extinction is a natural, necessary part of the Life Cycle. It is the process in nature by which, according to Darwin's Theory of Evolution, only the organisms best adapted to their environment tend to survive while those less adapted tend to be eliminated. In other words, every so often, bigger, stronger animals will enter an ecosystem and overwhelm the smaller animals that don't have the means to support themselves in the new, more competitive environment. As a result, the more efficient organisms take over and eventually, no one even remembers the extinct species. This is also referred to as *Natural Selection*.

Some Extinct Organisms:



Woolly Mammoth



Saber-Toothed Tiger



Dodo Bird



Mom and Pop Small
Corner Hardware Store

Albion Under Siege

Their king dead, the
knights and citizens of a
once-proud land must now
defend themselves
from the barbarians
at the gates.

Three realms at war.
Thousands of players.
An epic awaits...

Live ^{The} Legend™ **Dark
Age
of
Camelot**
www.darkageofcamelot.com

A massively multiplayer online roleplaying game
Coming October 2001

MYTHIC
ENTERTAINMENT

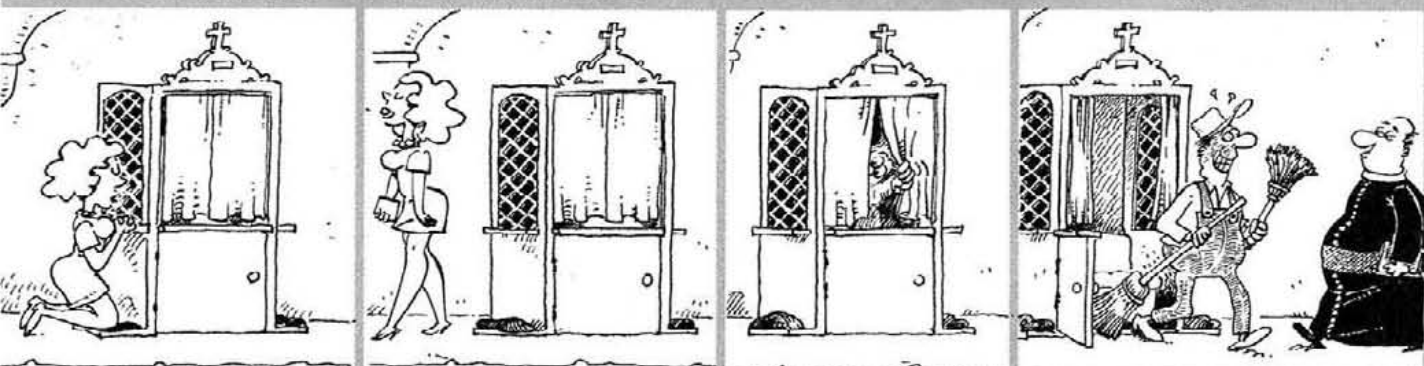
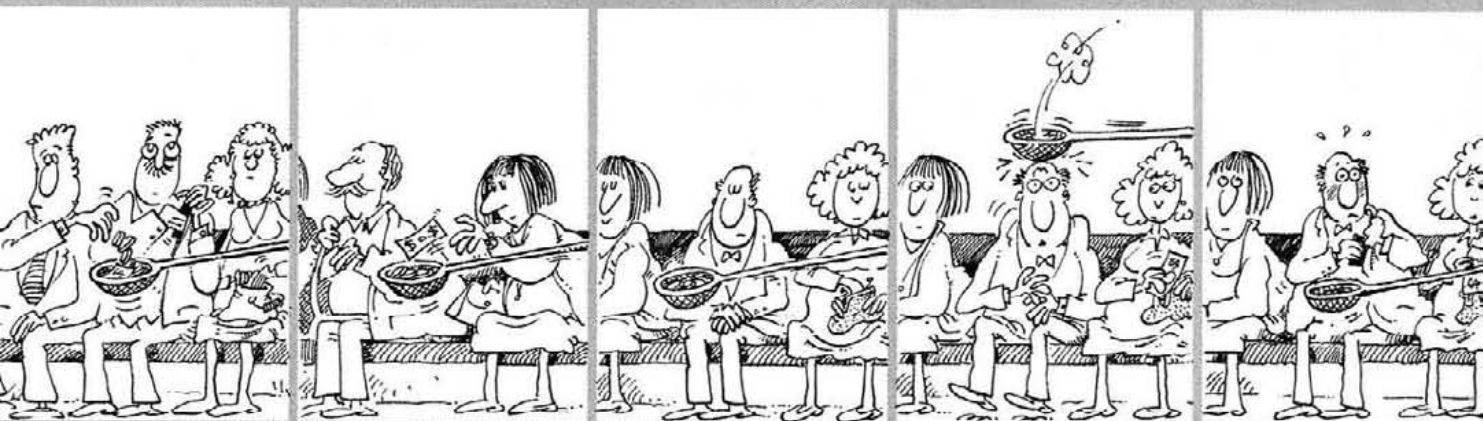
ABANDON
ENTERTAINMENT

RP
RATED
P
Visit www.darkageofcamelot.com
or call 1-800-771-3772
for more info.

INTERNET CONNECTION REQUIRED

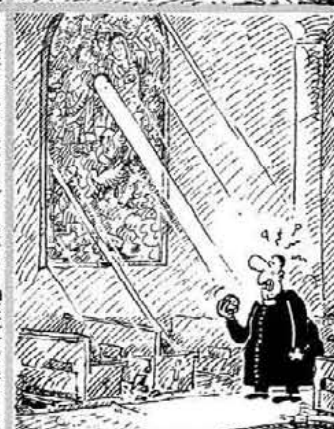
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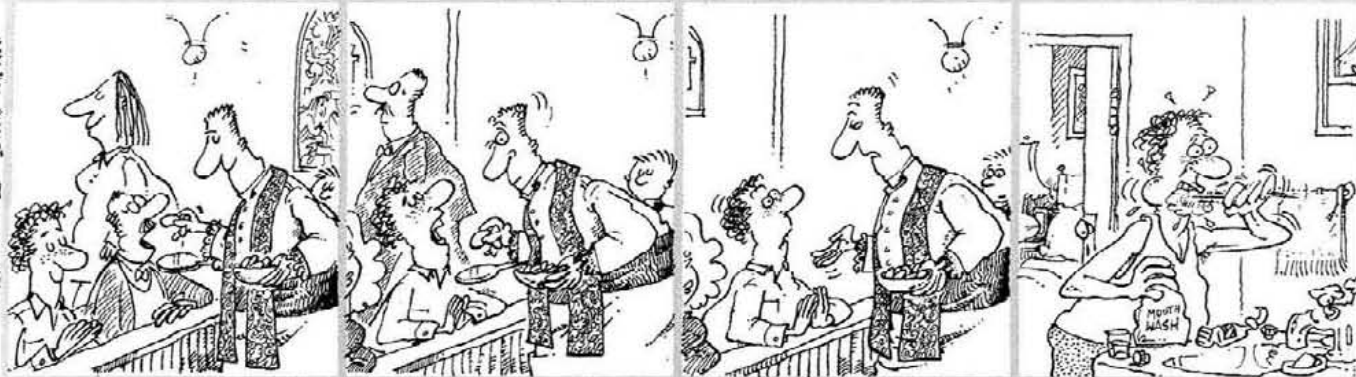
A MAD LOOK AT PRIE & A FE



A cartoon illustration depicting a church service. A priest, wearing a traditional cassock and zucchetto, stands on a raised platform (pulpit) reading from a book. He has a calm, slightly smiling expression. Below him, a large, dense crowd of people is seated in pews. Most of the people in the pews are shown sleeping, with their heads tilted back and eyes closed. Above the sleeping crowd, several lines of 'Z's are drawn, indicating snoring or deep sleep. On the left side of the image, the word 'ABBIS' is written in large, bold, black-outlined capital letters. The background is a simple, light gray, suggesting an interior church space.









It used to be that nothing short of a doctor's note detailing the symptoms of a highly contagious disease was acceptable fodder for missing a day of school. But, just as the quality of education has deteriorated, so have plausible excuses. So, to keep your ideas fresh and timely, we present you with a selection of new, improved and guaranteed to be accepted...

STUDENT EXCUSE NOTES FOR THE 21ST CENTURY



MEMO

TO: Frank Diblow,
Social Studies Instructor
FROM: Mrs. Linda Mochino

Dear Mr. Diblow,
Lorianna was absent from school yesterday because she had an ob-gyn appointment. By the way, it looks like you're going to be the father of twins!

Lorianna's mother,
Linda

Dear Teacher,

Zappy could not attend yesterday because of our religious holiday, the Feast of Princess Arcturus. We are required to stay home, light firecrackers and sing funeral dirges in preparation for the day when the Mothership comes for us, to bring us to live in Eternal Paradise. I guess it goes without saying that Zappy will no longer be in school at all after this happens.

Long Live Arcturus,

Sunbeam Funderlight ☺

DEAR TEACHER,

ONE OF MY KIDS WAS ABSENT
THE OTHER DAY BECAUSE OF
SOME SORT OF SICKNESS,
THOUGH I FORGET WHICH KID
OR WHICH SICKNESS.

DAPHNE VON CATCHKEY

To... Capric@pghs.com

Subject: Cory's Absence

Dear Mrs. Capric,

Cory was absent last Friday because he got engrossed playing Myst and reached another level. Activities such as this are essential to helping develop Cory's hand/eye coordination. At least that's what it said in the player's manual.

Sincerely,
Cory's Parents



Dear Ms. Blotz,
Antigone was absent from
class yesterday because she
was attending the funeral of her
surrogate mother's live-in lover.
Sincerely,
Hank Mackey (Antigone's sperm donor)

Dear Professor:

You'll have to pardon LaRissa's absence
yesterday. She was feeling the angst of
being trapped in a cold, uncaring world
that barely acknowledges her existence.

Best Wishes,
Mariana Pinato

Dear Ms. Savssat,

Sorry about Lenny
missing class last
Monday. He overdosed
on Ritalin and didn't
wake up until noon.

Sincerely,
Fred Agrippa

BRENT SACKBUT

Dear Mrs. Unbe,

Please excuse Melantha's absence from
English class yesterday. She had to wait
for FedEx to deliver her term paper.

Thank You,
Brent Sackbut

Dear Sir and/or Madam:

Dag was injured in the Junior
Snowboarding Championships at
The 'Bird, when he bonked hard
after a really aggro carve. He's
still a grom, and tends to shred.

xtremely Yours,
Dag Sr.

WHAT'S BLACK & WHITE AND READ ALL OVER? (WE HOPE!!)



INCLUDES:

- Rare interviews with Spy Vs. Spy creator Antonio Prohias!
- All 247 of Prohias's Spy Vs. Spy strips, as well as every non-Spy article he created for MAD!
- Biographical and historical essays by Sergio Aragones, Duck Edwing, Grant Geissman, Peter Kuper, Nick Meglin, Marta Pizarro and Fabiola Santiago, each detailing a different aspect and perspective on the Spies and their creator, Antonio Prohias!
- Prohias family photographs!
- Rare political and editorial cartoons from Cuba, including Prohias's pre-Spy "Sinister Man" cartoons!
- Unpublished and never-before-seen preliminary sketches and artist roughs!
- A visual catalog of Spy collectibles!

AND MORE!

**"A MUST
READ!"**

— Robert Hansen,
Former FBI Agent turned
Russian Informant



**ON SALE SEPTEMBER 15TH
WHEREVER BOOKS OR HIGHLY CLASSIFIED
GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS ARE SOLD!**

**Read An Exclusive Excerpt
Of This Book in MAD XL #12!**

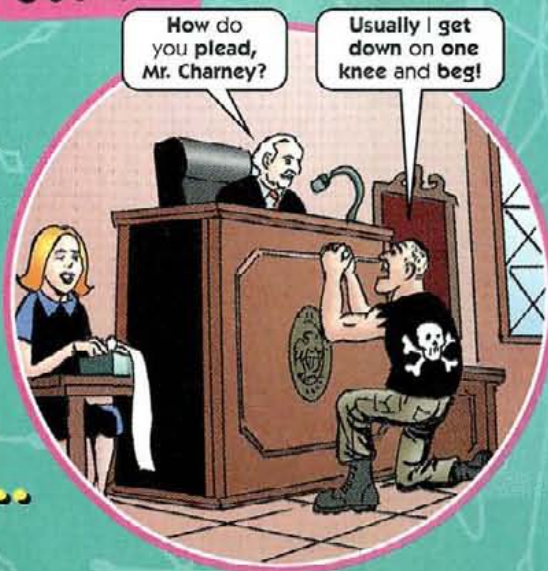
Watson-Guptill Publications
ISBN: 0-8230-5021-1
www.watsonguptill.com



The Lighter Side of...



JUSTICE



How do you plead, Mr. Charney?

Usually I get down on one knee and beg!

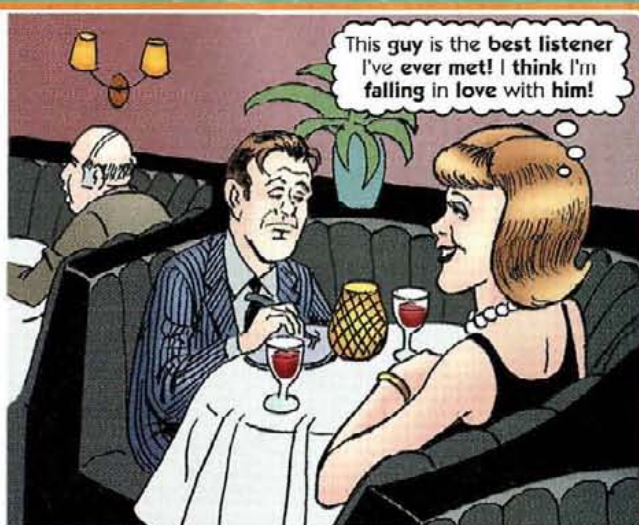
RELATIONSHIPS

ARTIST AND WRITER: DAVE BERG

COLORIST: WILDSTORM



She must think I'm the world's most boring guy! Every time I'm with her I can never think of anything to say! I like her a lot, but I'll never call her for a date again!



This guy is the best listener I've ever met! I think I'm falling in love with him!

REVERSALS



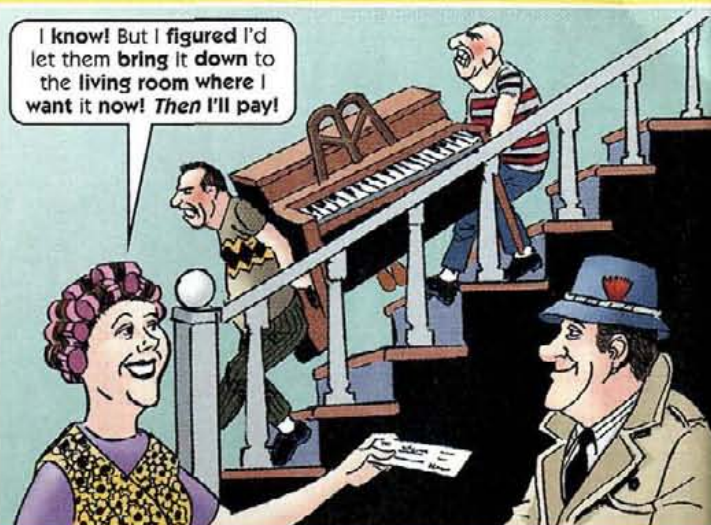
Before you became a cop, I remember when you were a salesman! C'mon, you can forgive a former customer this little "stop sign" mistake!

I'm sorry, Madam, but I'm afraid things are very different now!

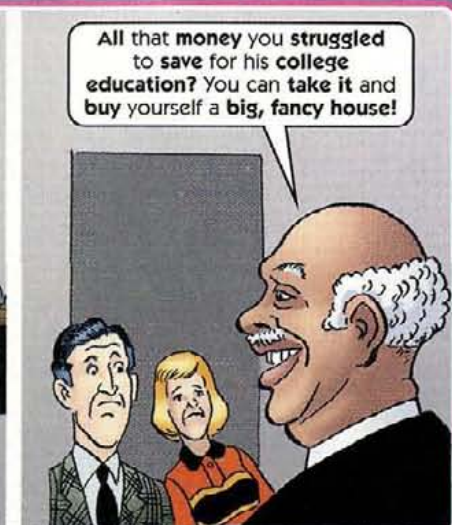


On this job, the customer is always wrong!

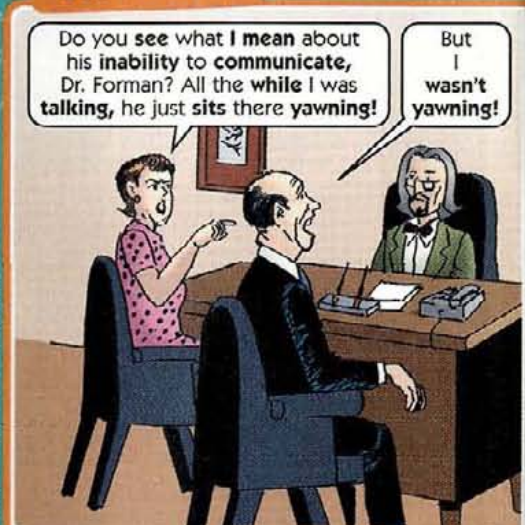
PLANNING AHEAD



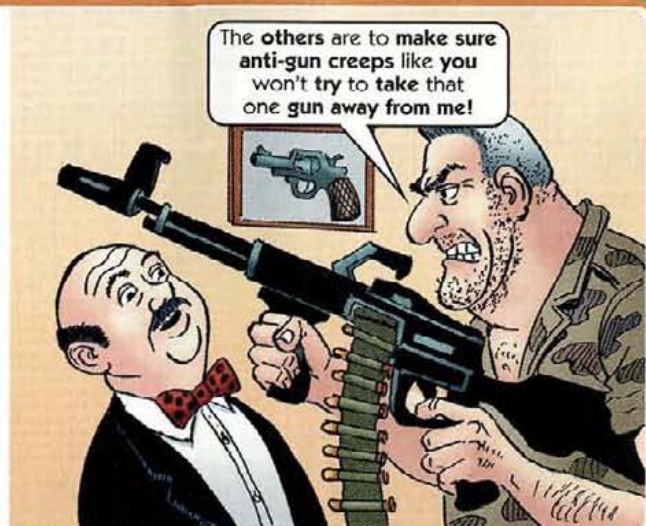
EDUCATION



THERAPY



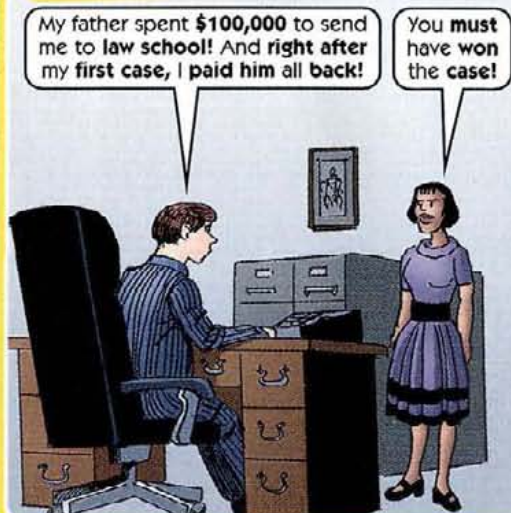
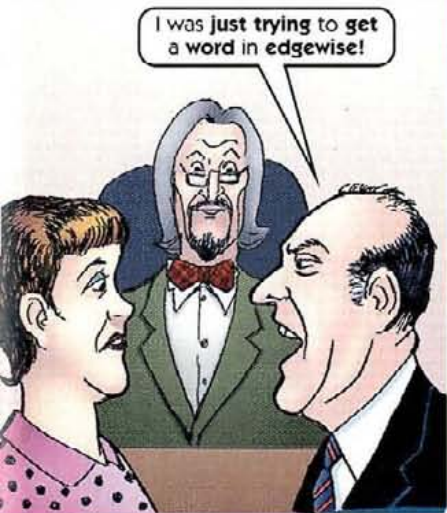
WEAPONS



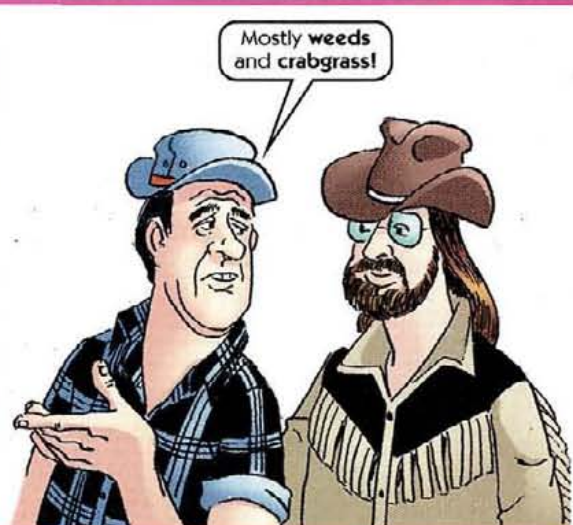
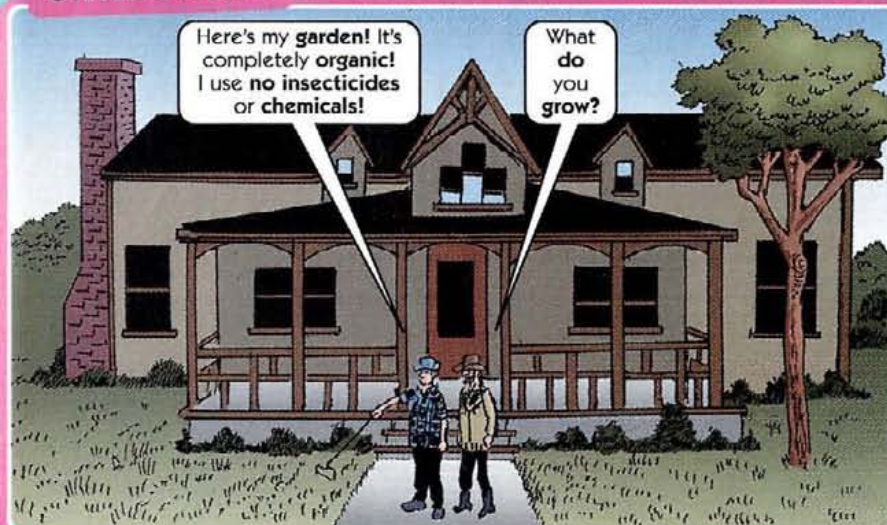
PRIORITIES



LAWYERS



GARDENING



THE OFFICE



TRUTH



DOCTORS



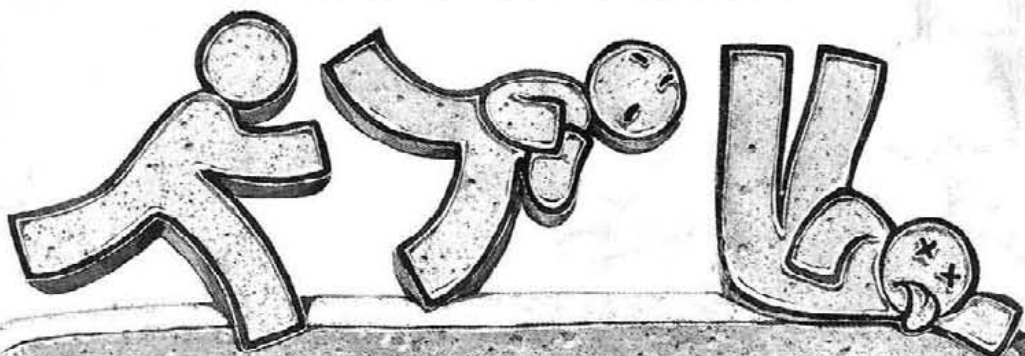


GRIEVING LAS VEGAS DEPT.

MAD's CELEBRITY CAUSE-OF-DEATH BETTING ODDS

Our team of crack oddsmakers gives you the latest Vegas line on how one of today's biggest stars will be control — alt — deleted!

THIS MONTH'S FUTURE HANDFUL OF DUST:



THE LITTLE AOL MAN

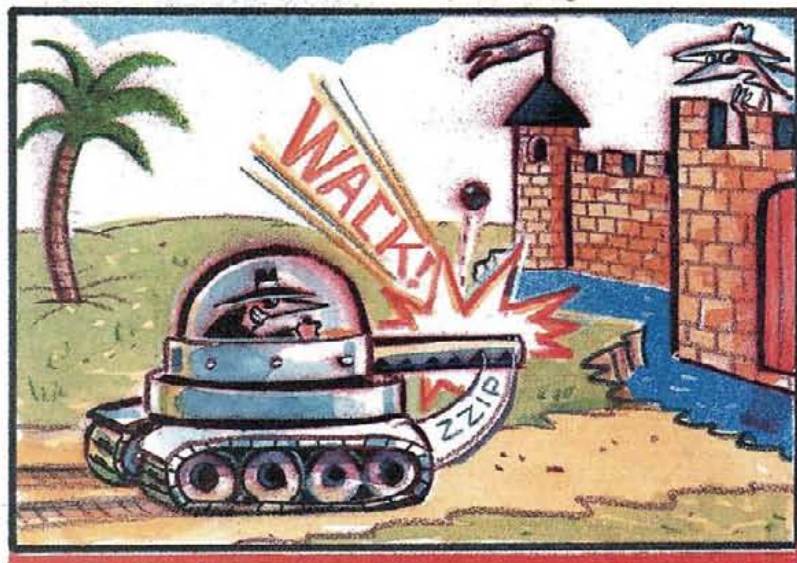
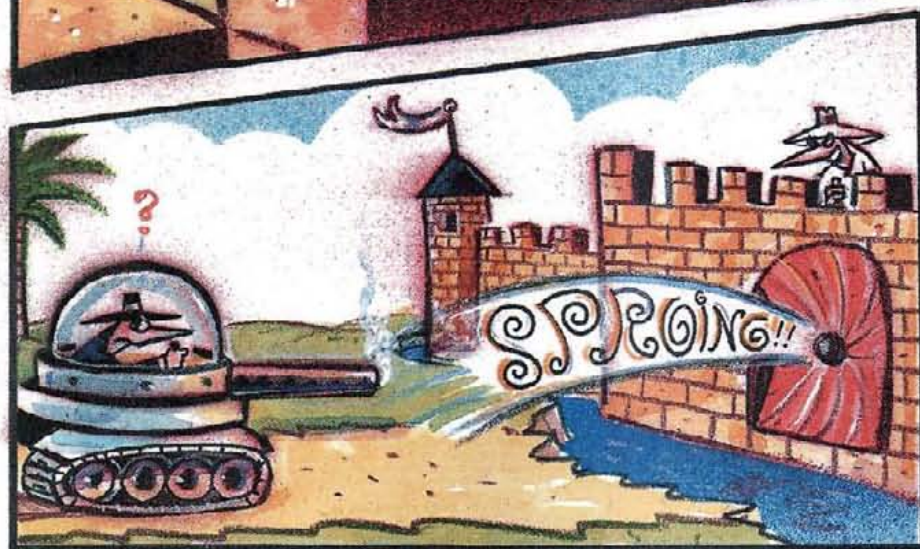
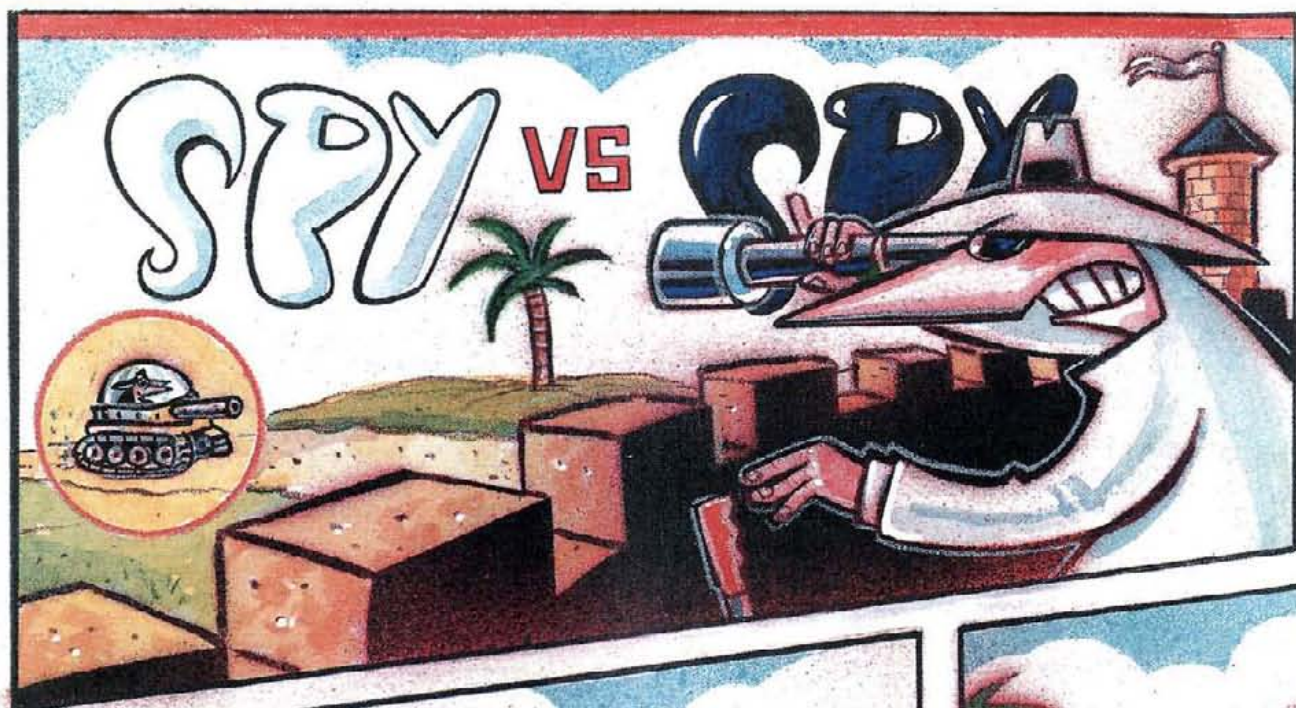
CAUSE OF DEATH

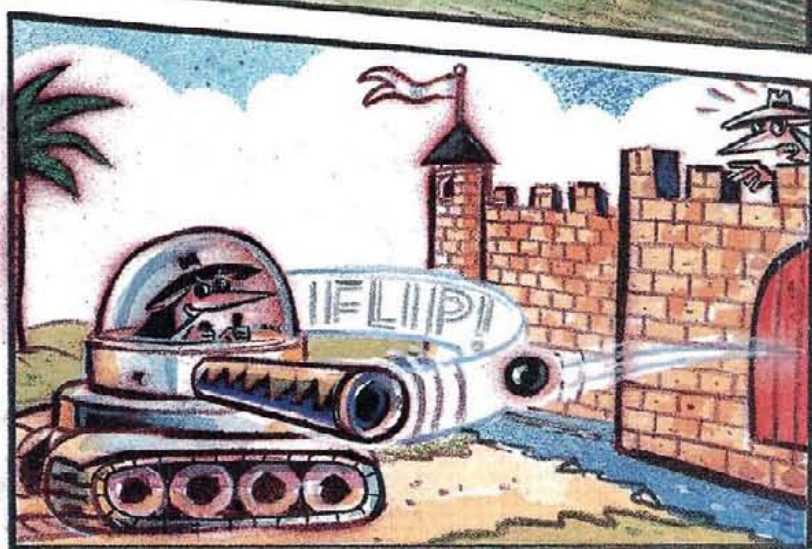
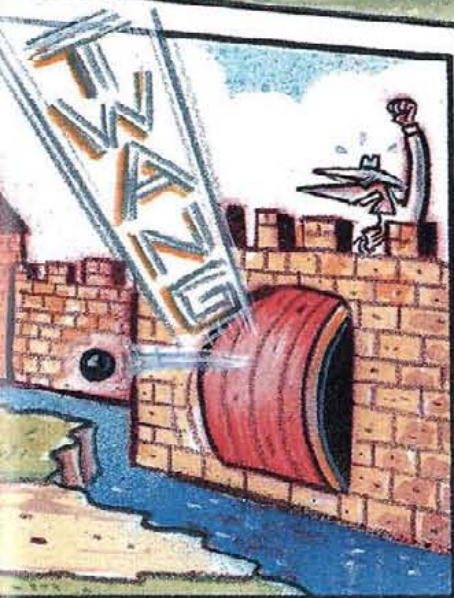
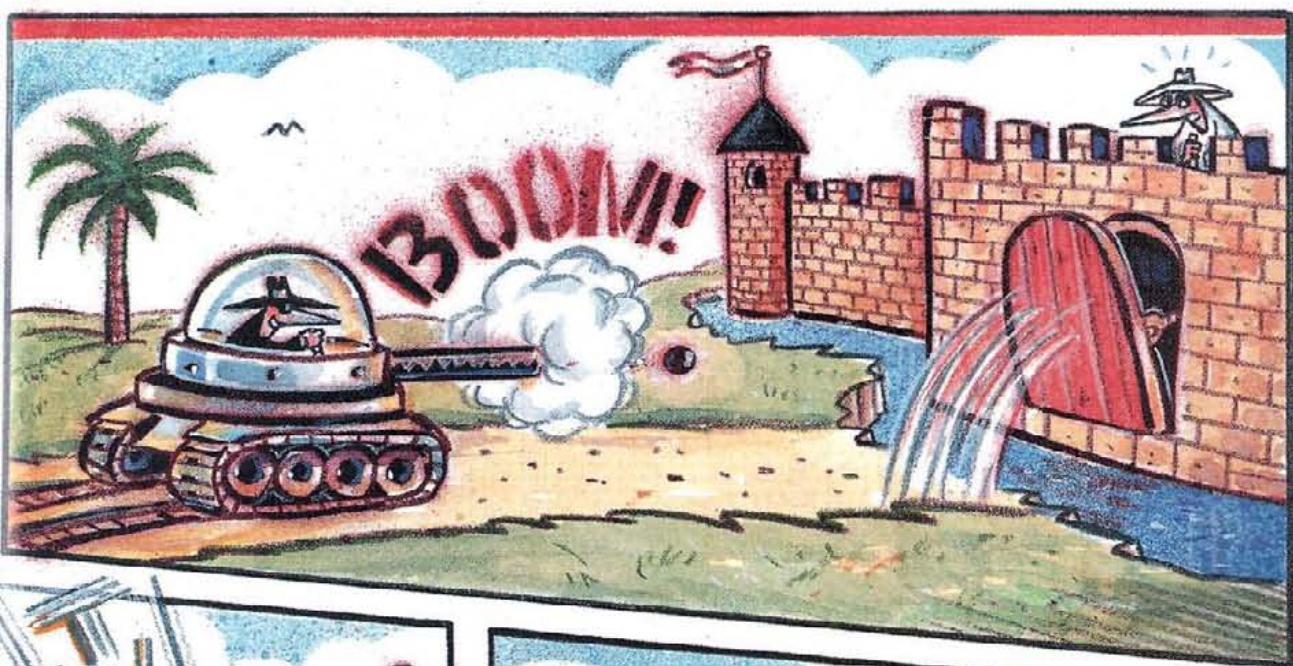
ODDS

Finally succumbs to cumulative effects of "Melissa" and "I Love You" computer viruses	1:1
Terminal exhaustion from running in place on AOL sign-on screen during busy signals	2:1
Throws self into recycle bin after being laid off due to merger of AOL and Time Warner	4:1
Skull fracture from clunk on head by unexpected Buddy List dropping down out of nowhere	6:1
Heart attack upon learning awful secret that his father is the yellow "Smiley Face" from the 1970s	9:1
Bored to death during visit to typical AOL chat room	10:1

ARTIST: HERMANN MEJIA
WRITER: MIKE SNIDER







ARTIST AND WRITER: PETER KUPER

KUPER



Remember when your mom used to put a little note and a treat in with your lunch? (No? What a sad childhood you had!) From a few scribbled lines and your favorite homemade cookies, you knew that she loved you and was thinking of you. (You really missed out, fella.) Yep, you can tell a lot about a mom from what she packs in your lunch. But every brown paper bag tells a different tale — and not all of them are so heartwarming. So to help decipher your mother's personality type based on her midday meal selections, MAD now presents...



ARTIST: AMANDA CONNER

WRITER: RYAN PAGELOW

COLORIST: WILDSTORM

**NEW AGE MOM**

Soy milk and horrible-tasting wheat-grass drink.

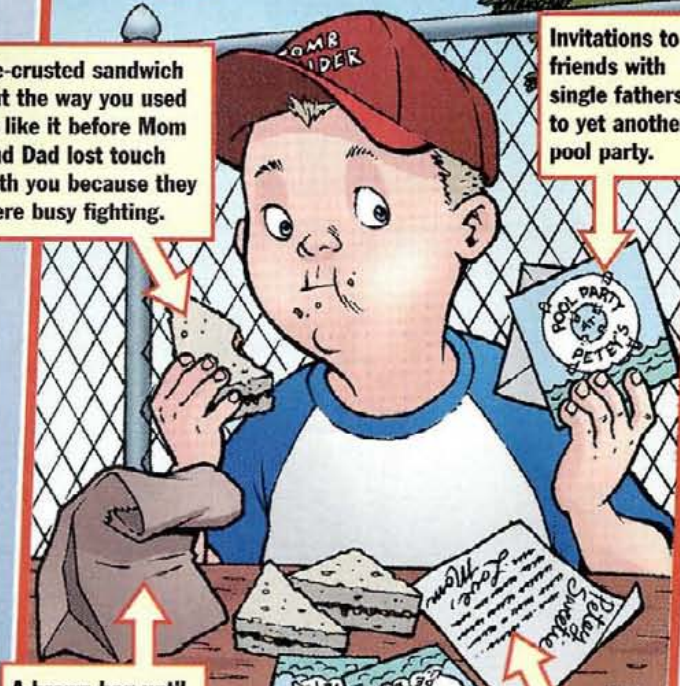
Napkins recycled from 100 percent post-consumer leftist newsletters.

Each day a new ethnic dish. Today is "Japan Day" with sushi rolls (without meat, of course), an explanation card and fun-facts about Japan.

**DIVORCED MOM**

De-crusted sandwich cut the way you used to like it before Mom and Dad lost touch with you because they were busy fighting.

Invitations to friends with single fathers to yet another pool party.



A brown bag until parents' divorce trial decides who owns which family assets, including your lunchbox.

Apology note for not being home after school, and yet another promise to take you to the zoo Saturday with her free time now that no-good Daddy is gone.

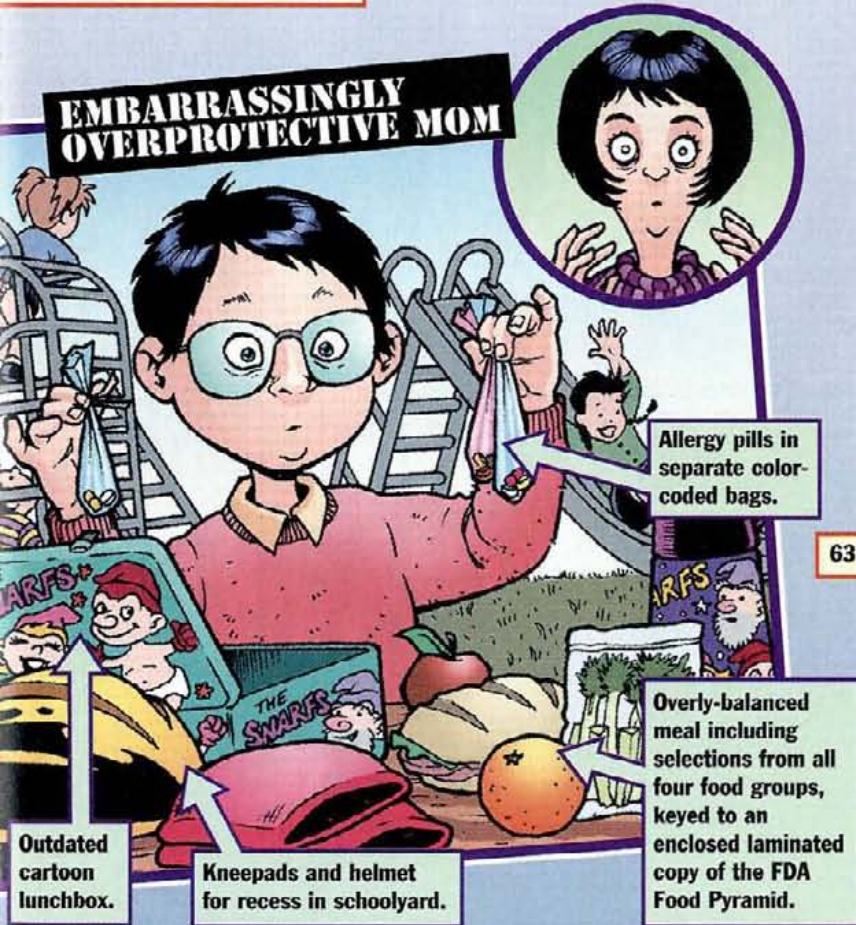
FUNDAMENTALIST MOM



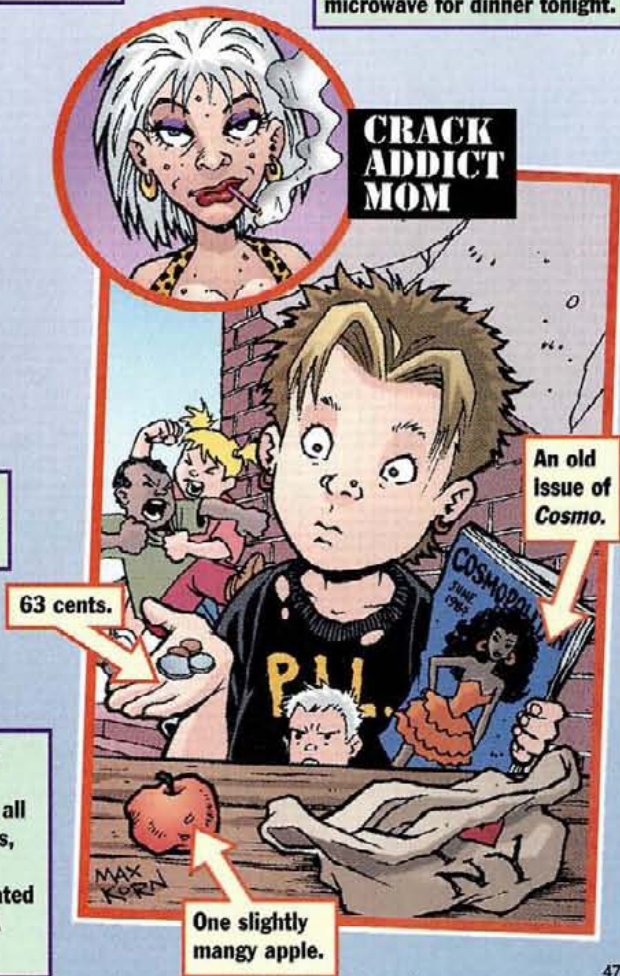
STRESSED-OUT WORKING MOM



EMBARRASSINGLY OVERPROTECTIVE MOM



CRACK ADDICT MOM



It's the Spielberg-by-way-of-Kubrick theory that in the future, in order to keep the world's population down, people will be offered a stark choice: either don't have children, or adopt robotic ones. The good news is that the robotic runts are life-like, loving and already toilet trained! The bad news is that they get on your nerves from day one, never grow up and never move out of the house — which is why the very idea of taking one of these little buggers home is the sheer height of...

I'm Professor Hubby, Chief Engineer at CyberCynics! We just released our latest model, DaveNocchio, a Mecha 11-year-old boy! Getting this super-advanced Mechaboy to love was easy! Getting it to be loved back from cold, self-centered parents was another thing! But then, that's par for the course in the real world!

I'm DaveNocchio, the most advanced Mecha ever built! I can run, laugh, and I can even think! I cost about a billion dollars to perfect! It would have been nice if they spent an extra five bucks to give me the ability to blink! My eyes are killing me! One other thing! I don't have the ability to sleep, which is horrible! Imagine sitting through this film without having the ability to snooze! Sheer torture!

I'm Momica, the mother of a very sick son! My husband has the nerve to think a Mecha could replace him! I know I wouldn't have to feed a Mecha, clean up after him, or wash his dirty clothes! And the Mecha would do all the housework! All the shopping! All the cooking! Hmm...Maybe it's time we pulled the plug and took our real son off life support!



My wife hates the Mecha because she feels I'm trying to substitute him for our real son! I hate the Mecha for my own reasons! He's supposed to be mechanical, and yet he can act better than me! I'm not nutty about Eveready the Bear, either! He has 100 times more screen time than I do! Robots may not be taking over the planet, but they sure are taking over the plum movie roles!

I'm Eveready the Bear, the mandatory cuddly, licensable character in every Spielberg film! I am a super toy! I have the looks of an Ewok, the charm of C3PO and for some inexplicable reason, the voice of Hannibal Lecter!

I'm Giggle-Low Joe! I'm handsome, I'm hot, and I'm an expert lover who can get it on several times a day! And I never fall asleep afterwards! Instead, I want to cuddle! That's the dead giveaway to women that I'm a robot and not a real man!

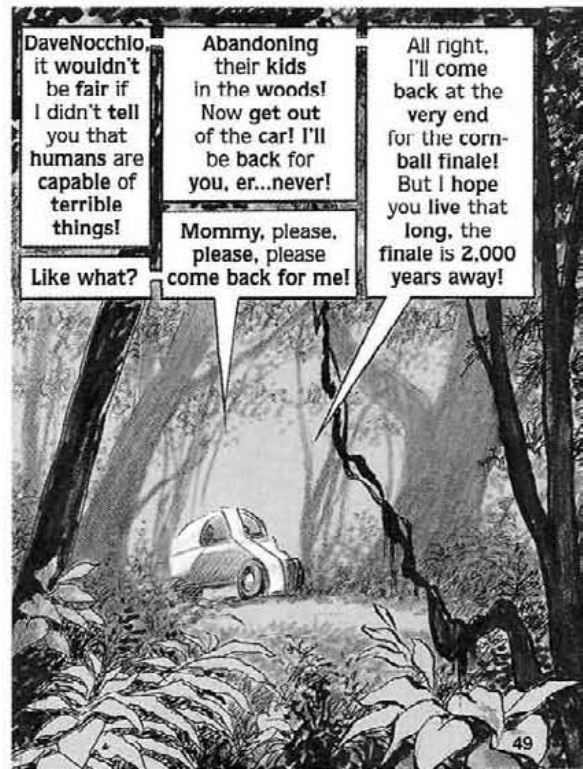
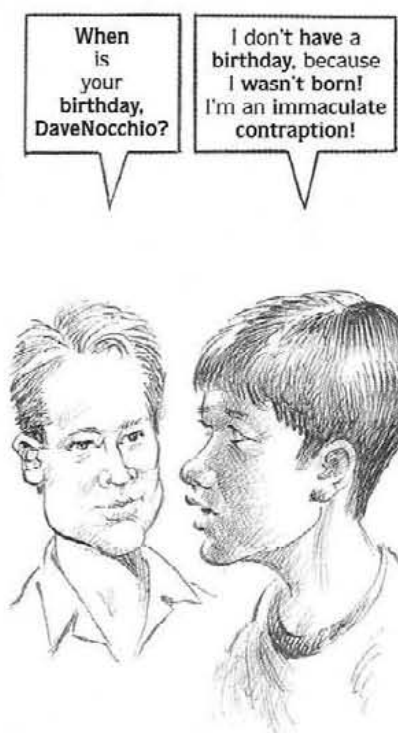
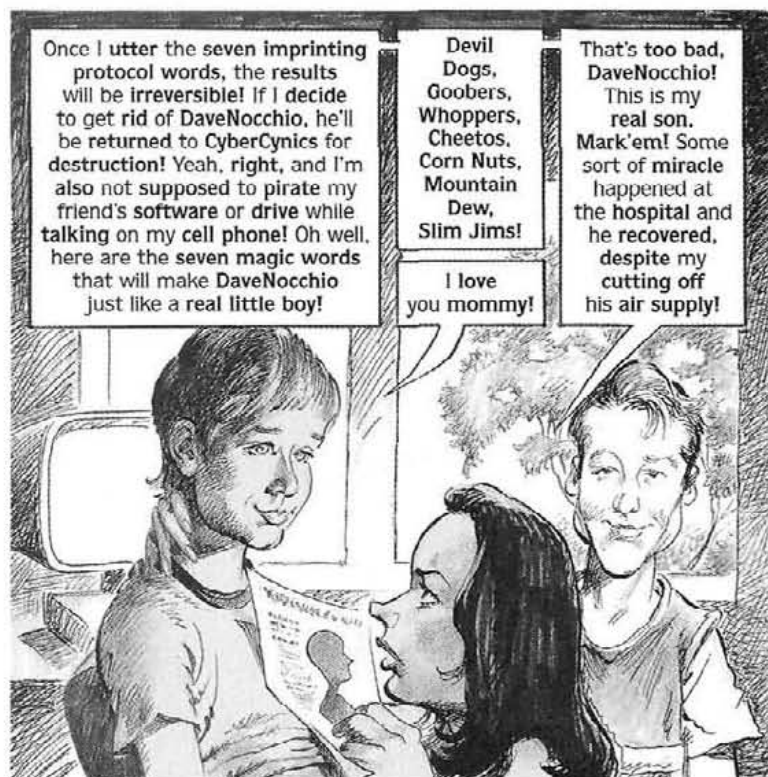
I'm Mark'em, the real, human son! But I'm in a coma, so I can't utter anything here! But I hope to recover in the next few panels to inject some life into this movie!

MAX KOP
CART
DRUCKER
ROBOT

A.I. ABSOLUTE IDIOCY

ARTIST: MORT DRUCKER

WRITER: PICK DEBARTOLO





You're on your own now, DaveNocchio! Go in any direction but that one!

Why, mommy? What's in that direction?

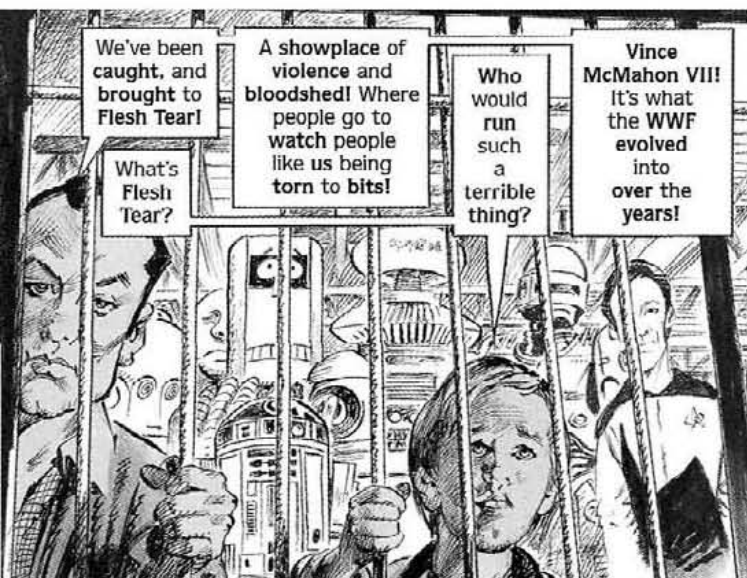
The Stanley Kubrick part of the film! It's dark, dreary and unintelligible!

Gee, that sounds much better than where we've spent the first part of this film!



Hi! I'm "Giggle-Low Joe"! I'm DaveNocchio! Whadda you know, Joe?

I know next time to read the script before signing on to a movie, even if Spielberg is directing it!



We've been caught, and brought to Flesh Tear!

What's Flesh Tear?

A showplace of violence and bloodshed! Where people go to watch people like us being torn to bits!

Who would run such a terrible thing?

Vince McMahon VII! It's what the WWF evolved into over the years!

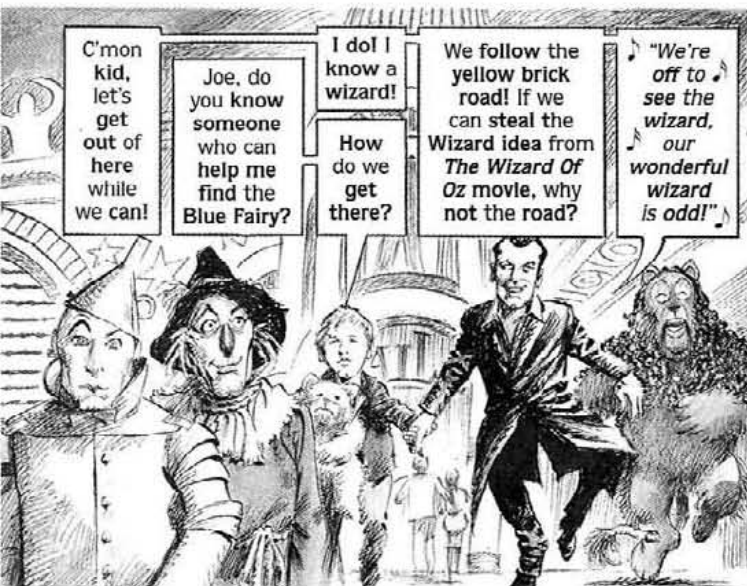


There's a real boy in the cage with the Mechas!

A real boy! Stop this event!

You're stopping this sadistic event out of compassion for the boy?

Compassion? If that's a real boy, I'm stopping this event till every one pays an extra \$20 to see bona-fide bloodshed!



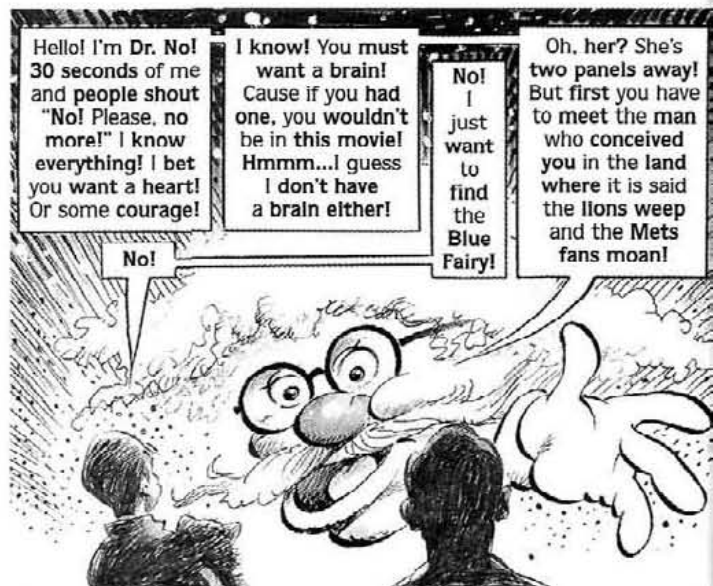
C'mon kid, let's get out of here while we can!

Joe, do you know someone who can help me find the Blue Fairy?

I do! I know a wizard! How do we get there?

We follow the yellow brick road! If we can steal the Wizard Of Oz movie, why not the road?

"We're off to see the wizard, our wonderful wizard is odd!"

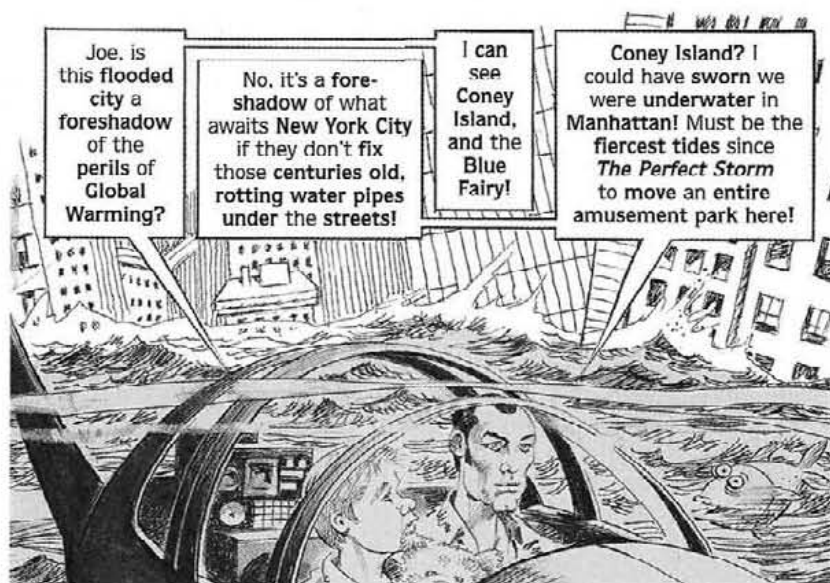
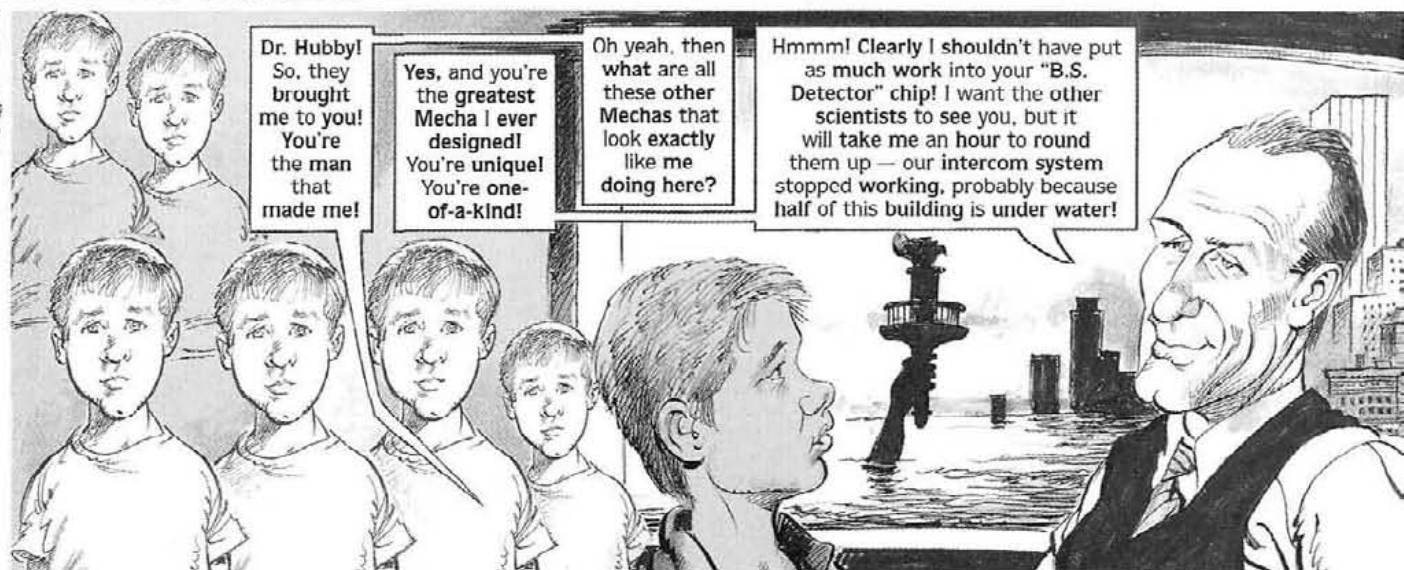


Hello! I'm Dr. No! 30 seconds of me and people shout "No! Please, no more!" I know everything! I bet you want a heart! Or some courage!

I know! You must want a brain! Cause if you had one, you wouldn't be in this movie! Hmmm...I guess I don't have a brain either!

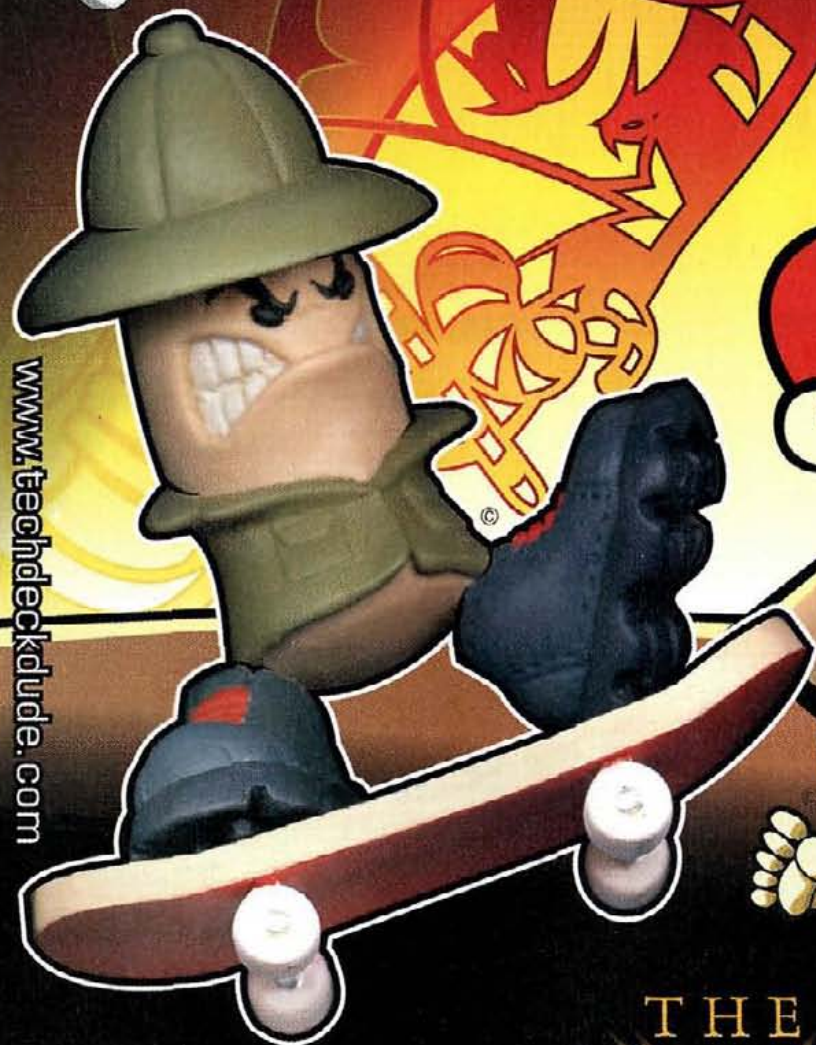
No! I just want to find the Blue Fairy!

Oh, her? She's two panels away! But first you have to meet the man who conceived you in the land where it is said the lions weep and the Mets fans moan!





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THE PHINGER

X-CONCEPTS® PRESENTS

A TECH DECK DUDE™ PRODUCT DAKOTA FINGER PHINGER TUT AND BÖNZ IN "THE PHINGER" MUSIC BY RAP MASTA THUMB EXECUTIVE PRODUCER KEVIN KNUCKLE DIRECTED BY DAVID FINGER

THIS PRODUCT NOT YET RATED

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NOT AN ACTUAL MOVIE EQUIPMENT

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THEM ALL**

LOOK FOR NEW DUDES COMING SOON



**WHAT
HISTORICALLY
GREAT TEAM
HAS STUMBLLED
BADLY IN THE
LAST YEAR?**

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS MAD FOLD-IN

The ability to sustain a winning season each year is difficult at best. The players have to stay at the top of their game and the calls have to go in their favor. All it takes is one snag for everything to come tumbling down. This year a historically great team suffered through some very bad times. To find out who this team is, fold page in as shown.



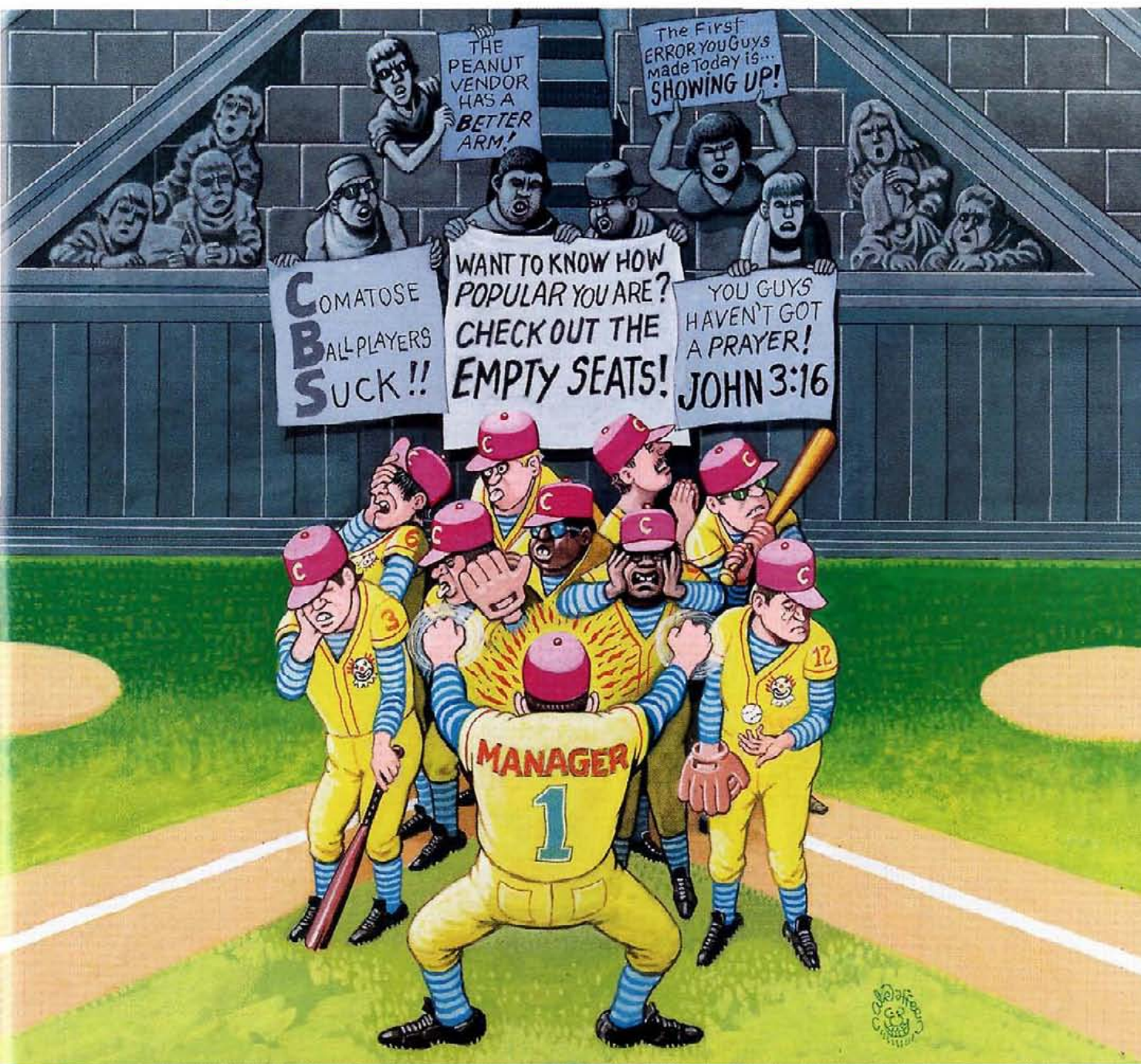
FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A

FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT

B

FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"

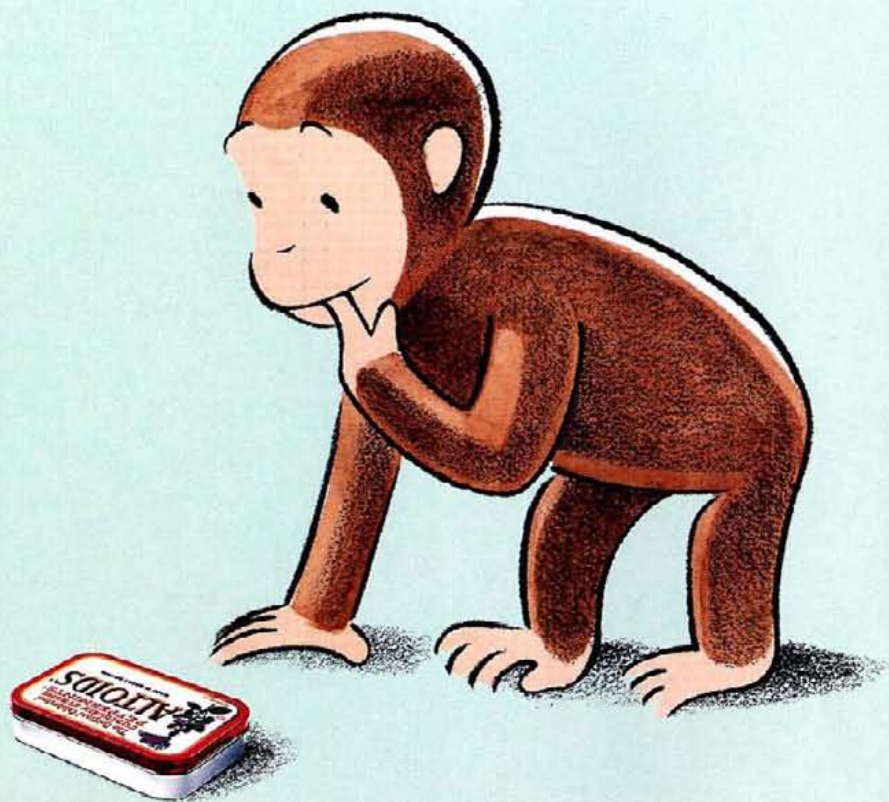


**THE SUPPOSED EXCELLENCE OF THIS TEAM IS UNDER EXTREME
PRESSURE LATELY. BUT NO ONE THOUGHT THEY
COULD LET THEIR IMAGE FALL SO COMPLETELY APART**

A

ARTIST AND WRITER: AL JAFFEE

B



ALTOIDS

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